THE Macdonald Farm Journal

VOLUME 16 No. 7

MARCH 1956

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As we see it

More Income for Agriculture

In the unprecendented wave of prosperity which has visited Canada over the past two years, farmers have been on the outside looking in — like poor children with their noses pressed against toy shop windows. Farm prices are now back on the level of 1947 and farm costs some 30 per cent higher. Farm incomes have slipped every year since 1951. Generally farmers are back in the financial position they held in the early 1940's.

On the other hand the earnings of industrial workers scored substantial gains in 1955 — to continue an upward trend unbroken since before the war. The Montreal Gazette describes 1955 as a year of "soaring profits". Farmers are aware of these facts.

This adverse position of farmers is not due to any sharp expansion of output. It has occurred in the face of slow increases in farm production. Generally farm output has increased only half as fast as non-farm industry in the post-war years — and not much faster than population growth. Thus no burst of production is causing farm distress.

Regardless of its cause, such a situation just cannot be tolerated. Our basic philosophy of government in Canada is that, when the situation of any considerable group becomes bad enough, action must be taken to relieve it. We use our government for just this purpose. Think of our labour legislation and how much power it has put in the hands of organized labour. Think of our tariff structure and of the industries which exist because of it. The cost to the nation of such assistance exceeds many times over anything we have done for agriculture. In fact a possible criticism of the development of national policy is that we have not found the appropriate means for assisting the farm industry. This is not due to any lack of sympathetic interest of the government in the welfare of farmers. Rather it is due to the inordinate difficulties of the problem. Certainly, as most farmers know, the highly developed but distinctly different programmes of farm assistance in the United States and United Kingdom provide no useful guide for Canada.

The difficulty of providing a basic programme of assistance for agriculture which would come into force, when needed, cannot be stressed too greatly. All proposals made so far have some formidable faults or disadvantages. Thus until we get a satisfactory long range programme we must use what we have and use it fully. Between the price support programme under the 1944 legislation, the Wheat Board programme, the 1938 legislation for aiding in the financing of cooperative marketing, and other measures, the distress in the present situation can be alleviated without injury to the farm industry or the nation.

Thus the government decision to pay a portion of the storage charges on grain held by the Wheat Board is a good one — and mainly because it transfers about $30,000,000 to an important group of farmers in urgent need. So with the current support of potato and apple producers. The incomes of farmers in distressed areas will be supplemented. Considering the present farm situation and the prospects for the balance of 1956, more transfers from national and provincial treasuries are required.

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A fair return for most farmers is not possible unless we have a

New Deal for the Family Farm

by J. T. Davidson

"Obtain for the farm family a standard of living comparable to the standards enjoyed by those in other industries - - - A fair share of the national income for farmers." - This has long been the rallying cry of organized farmers. Why then do farm families fail to get a fair share? Can anything be done about it?

THE WARTIME and post war era of relative prosperity for agriculture has obviously come to an end. Farm production has remained high, export markets have declined, and domestic demand has not taken up the slack.

The national farm net-income pie is not as large now. Yet it still has to be divided among a large number of farmers. Present market forces of supply and demand are even less able than they were to provide a profitable level of farm prices for all farmers.

Some fear mechanization and commercialized farming. They see the family farm replaced by huge, factory-type enterprises. On the other hand, many feel the real threat to the family farm is the competition from thousands of small uneconomical farm units with low incomes. Another fear is that farm costs and prices may not bear a fair relationship. When this happens not even the most efficient producers with low costs can afford to farm.

Some Facts About Our Farms

At the time of the 1951 Census, 623,000 land holdings were classified as farms. When you examine these figures closely, you uncover some rather startling information. You will fiind that 235,000 farms had gross sales of between $250 and $2500. As farm costs eat up roughly half of each sales dollar, it is obvious this large group has inadequate incomes. Another substantial number (87,000 farms) are on a subsistence level — really not farms at all — which sell less than $250 worth of product. Part-time farms, fairly well confined to food production for home use, with the main family income from other sources number another 65,000. When you add to these a few hundred institutional farms, you end up with a figure of 388,000 farms on a non-commercial scale.

Farms operated by managers and owned by 'hobby farmers' and others number about 7,500. There are some 20,500 large commercial farms operated by the owner but on which hired labour does most of the work. It is estimated that about 23,000 farms are operated by tenants with insecure short leases. Farms partly owned and partly rented, with insecure rental arrangements, number about 45,000. This gives us another 95,000 farms which are either too large, or organized and operated in such a way that they can not be classified as family farms.

Now if we subtract the 388,000 plus 95,000 from the total of 623,000 farms in the Census, we end up with a figure of 240,000 family farms. These would be the farms, operated by farm families, which earn at least an adequate minimum standard of living under average market and price conditions.

Farm Policies Needed

Farming to-day has become a highly mechanized commercial enterprise with heavy capital investment and many operating costs. Expanded farm credit facilities for established farmers are needed so that our family farms can hold their own and expand. Specialized credit is required for beginning farmers and for those of good ability who, for one reason or another now find themselves in the low income group. We need also to help many farmers obtain a reasonable security of tenure through long-term rental arrangements, father-son or co-operative agreements.

The problem of farm costs and prices is an extremely complex affair. Farm policies with respect to marketing, co-operative development, quality, sales promotion and the like are becoming more important. Minimum supports, surplus product disposal programs, and other legislative action is required to help farmers maintain a fair relationship between costs and prices. Having said this there still is one matter that can not be ignored. This is the problem of the thousands of small low-income farmers.

What Should We Do?

First we must recognize that only a relatively few of the present low income group are likely ever to farm on a commercial scale. The few that can be helped to organize their farms on a paying basis should certainly be helped by credit and other means. For most of the thousands of "farms" with sub-standard incomes, separate policies are needed. Policies which aim to provide other sources of income, offer re-establishment credits, or other rehabilitation measures may perhaps be required

to encourage a considerable number to make their living elsewhere. Crop land thus released for the expansion of neighboring full-time family farms could mean the difference between a low and adequate income. In some areas a multitude of small holdings blocks the progress of those who have the ability and desire to farm on a larger scale.

The magnitude of the "low income" farm problem and its effect on the whole farm economy should not be ignored. Dairy farming in Quebec could serve to illustrate the point. Here close to 90,000 of our farms derive part or all of their income from dairying. But 70,000 of these are small low-income producers selling less than $300 worth of dairy products on the average. Compare this with 20,000 commercial dairy farms which average over $3000 in dairy sales.

It would seem apparent that these commercial dairy farms face direct competition from the low income farms. Small dairy herds account for 25 per cent of the milk and cream sold in the province. It is not difficult to see how the price position for specialized dairy farmers would improve rapidly if a considerable number of these small producers were to drop out.

Where Do We Go From Here?

The objective of fair returns for family farms is attainable but not alone through higher farm prices, legisletive action, parity price formulae, or marketing schemes. Although to some degree such measures can be helpful when handled properly.

The main way to tackle the problem would seem to be through extended credit use and better farm management. The aim should be to boost gross income, lower fixed and operating costs to a minimum, and in this way raise the net farm income.

So long as the family farm can provide an adequate income, we have no need to fear factory-type or large-scale farming taking over. But one thing we must stop doing is taking on the problems of farms with incomes lower than an acceptable minimum. We can make an exception to this only for beginners and others who, clearly can be helped to become farmers on a commercial scale. It is in the best interests of agriculture, and of Canada as a whole, that we help the majority in the low income and subsistence group now presently struggling on the land find a better alternative source of income.

Dairy Notes

Butter

Production of creamery butter was up by 2% in 1955 to a new high of 318.2 million pounds from 312.8 million pounds in 1954. Domestic consumption also increased by 4% to 301.8 million pounds from 292.9 million pounds in 1954.

Despite increased production we came a little closer in 1955 to balancing production and consumption. The following table tells the story.

	Production 1954	312.8	million pounds
Domestic	Consumption 1954	292.9	" "
	Surplus 1954	19.9	" "
	Production 1955	318.2	" "
Domestic	Consumption 1955	301.8	" "
	Surplus 1955	16.4	" "

In other words despite an increase in production of 5.4 million pounds of butter there were 3.5 million fewer pounds going into storage as domestic consumption went up by 8.9 million pounds in 1955. But at the present rate of increased butter production and the excessive stocks of butter still in storage, it will be a long time before we can possibly eat our way out of the butter surplus. Despite sales by the Prices Support Board in the export trade during 1955, storage holdings of creamery butter were 9 million pounds higher on January 1, 1956 than on January 1, 1955. Holdings on January 1, 1956 were 100 million pounds.

Cheddar Cheese

Consumers ate more than 74 million pounds of Canadian Cheddar Cheese in 1955 to narrow the gap between production and consumption. Total Cheddar Cheese production was 78.6 million pounds. Export of Cheddar Cheese at 11.4 million pounds was more than double exports in 1954. The net result was nearly 4 million pounds less in storage on January 1, 1956 than on the same date in 1955.

Cheddar Cheese production in 1955 was down 5.8 million pounds in 1955 from 1954. During the year there were imports of cheese from New Zealand almost equalling the decline in Canadian production.

Cheese producer organizations have advocated banning of Cheddar imports from New Zealand while surplus stocks are being moved into world trade. Our stocks of Cheddar Cheese in store on January 1, 1956 are not considered much more than necessary to meet domestic needs. However, as cheese production and exports are subject to wide fluctuations, it is hard to say what the situation will be at the end of the production season.

Changes in Milk Consumption

Spurred by warime subsidy prices and nutritional campaigns, per-capita consumption of fluid milk went up to 6 percent above 1940 levels. Since 1946 the fluid milk used by the average consumer has decreased to only about 3 percent above pre-war despite higher incomes.

Since 1951 per capita consumption of fluid milk has remained steady. But evaporated milk consumption per

person has doubled since the early years of the war. The average consumption of dry skimmed milk has more than doubled since 1940. The introduction of the new "instant" skim product should further stimulate this trend.

The general acceptance of evaporated milk for infant feeding and the increased use of skim milk powder in cooking and other home uses have in all probability affected fluid milk sales. A part of the increased use of these products has been at the expense of increases in fluid sales.

More Dairy Cows — Fewer Heifers

Milk cows on farms at the end of 1955 are estimated, by the Bureau of Statistics, at 3,287,000 head, 2 percent above the same period in 1954. Yearling heifers being kept for milking purposes have declined by 5 percent in the same period.

The greatest concentration of milk cows continues to be in Quebec (1,100,000 head) and Ontario (1,055,000 head) which account for two-thirds of the total. The year's greatest increase was in Quebec where there was an increase of 50,000 head or 4,7 percent compared with the national average increase of only 2 percent.

Margarine

Butter's most important competitor registered an 8% increase in production during 1955. Total production increased to 125.1 million pounds from 115.8 million pounds in 1954.

Cash Income From Sale Of Farm Products Down 2.3% In 1955

Cash income from the sale of farm products and from participation payments on previous years' Prairie grain crops in 1955 amounted to an estimated $2,323,330,000, 2.3% below the 1954 estimate of $2,377,800,000 and 18.5% below the all-time high of $2,849,300,000 in 1952. Supplementary payments made under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act amounted to $33,300,000 versus $2,400,000 in 1954 and $1,600,000 in 1953.

On a commodity basis the more important increases in cash returns were recorded for wheat, flaxseed, corn potatoes, cattle, dairy products, poultry meat and eggs. The more important reductions occurred in the case of participation mayemnts, oats, barley, rye and hogs. Regionally the estimates indicate increases in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, and decreases for the Prairie Provinces and New Brunswick.

Preliminary estimates for the provinces are as follows, 1954 estimates being in brackets (in thousands): Prince Edward Island, $25,734 ($24,031); Nova Scotia, $45,305 ($43,017); New Brunswick, $48,341 ($48,419); Quebec, $414,412 ($407,947); Ontario, $719,023 ($704,544); Manitoba $172,341 ($186,508); Saskatchewan, $427,129 ($472,297); Alberta, $362,048 ($385,694); and British Columbia, $108,997 ($105,377).

C. R. D. in Poultry

by J. W. Pullin

In severe outbreaks of Chronic Respiratory Disease, many birds die or at least become less thrifty. Inactivity, loss of appetite, and poor feed conversion among broilers, young stock, and layers can add up to heavy losses for the poultryman. C.R.D. is a disease condition no producer can afford to ignore.

CHRONIC respiratory disease is essentially an infection of the respiratory passages and air sacs of chickens and turkeys. For this reason it is often called C.R.D. or air sac infection. The disease was first reported and described in the United States by Delaplane and Stuart (1943). Since that time it has been observed in most of the heavily populated poultry areas of Canada. In recent years the incidence and severity of the disease has increased particularly in broiler raising districts where the disease causes losses of considerable economic importance.

Symptoms

Natural outbreaks of chronic respiratory disease have been reported in poultry of all ages. In broilers, the disease frequently appears between 4 and 10 weeks of age. Affected birds exhibit respiratory symptoms such as nasal discharge, coughing, sneezing, watery eyes and frequent head shaking, together with pronounced inactivity and loss of appetite. In severe outbreaks the mortality may reach 40 percent. High mortality however is usually associated with poor management or complicating infections. The severity and duration of the disease may vary widely. In some instances flocks may recover in several weeks but more commonly the birds continue to have respiratory symptoms accompanied by low feed conversion and retardation of growth resulting in delayed marketing of the birds. The disease may behave similarly in young stock reared for replacement of laying or breeding flocks. However, frequently the disease may subside before the birds become sexually mature. Light infections may have little effect on egg production. Severe infections result in impaired egg production, hatchability and liveability of chicks.

Cause and Diagnosis

Chronic respiratory disease is generally believed to be caused by a pleuropneumonia-like organism present in the respiratory systems of diseased birds. Other organisms, however, such as viruses, richettsiae and members of the coliform group of bacteria have also been isolated from affected birds. The role of these other agents in

the development of the disease is not completely understood and must await further research study for clarification.

The accurate diagnosis of C.R.D. is often difficult to make. The disease may be complicated with other respiratory diseases such as infectious bronchitis and Newcastle disease. The pleuropneumonia-like organisms associated with the disease are often difficult to isolate. How to tell the disease causing organisms from non-pathogenic strains which may be harboured by chickens also poses a problem.

The recent development of a serological test holds promise as a useful diagnostic tool. However, this test is not yet available for general use. Frequently poultry disease specialists must rely entirely on the flock history, the clinical picture and post-mortem findings in order to arrive at a proper diagnosis.

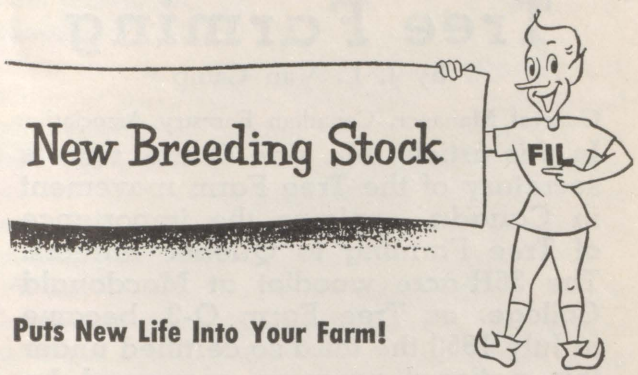
Possible Control Measures

At the present time there is no known drug-chemical which permanently eliminates the pleuropneumonia-like organisms from the respiratory passages of infected birds. However, antibiotics, particularly terramycin, aureomycin and streptomycin are reported to be of benefit in outbreaks of the disease. These are believed to control the secondary bacterial infections frequently associated with this disease condition. Their administration also tends to stimulate the appetite resulting in general flock improvement.

Before considering the treatment of a large flock it is often advisable to administer high-level antibiotics to a fraction of the flock for a period of week. If improvement is noted the remainder of the flock may be similarly treated. Recently an aerosal form of streptomycin sprayed over the resting birds has given favourable results.

If any control of C.R.D. lies in the proper use of antibiotics it would appear that periodic treatment of supply flocks should be carried out to prevent possible spread of the disease by egg-borne transmission. Although the percentage of infected eggs is believed to be low, a few infected chicks could serve as a source of infection for an entire flock since air-borne transmission is known to occur.

Research is continuing to fully understand the disease and to try to develop effective control measures. Until further knowledge is gained, the recommendations for the control of chronic respiratory infection must consist of those made for the control of any chronic infection. Stock other than day-old chicks should not be introduced on the premises. All affected or recovered birds should be got rid before clean pullets are housed. The part played by day-old chicks and the effect of other infections on the introduction and activation of chronic respiratory disease cannot be properly assessed with our present knowledge. Good management and sanitary practices are essential in the control of this disease.



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Tree Farming

by J. L. Van Camp

General Manager, Canadian Forestry Association

In this article, Mr. Van Camp, who is secretary of the Tree Farm movement in Canada, explains the importance of Tree Farming to Quebec farmers. The 35H-acre woodlot at Macdonald College, as Tree Farm Q-3, became in July 1953 the third so certified under this national program sponsored by the Canadian Forestry Association.

THE INTEREST shown by Macdonald College officials in the wooded portion of their Farm is recognition of the importance of timber in the agricultural economy of Quebec. The September 1955 issue of the "Journal" contained detailed statistics by Dr. Brittain on the importance of farm woodlot income. This item is of considerable importance even in the present undeveloped stage of our woodlots. Most woods income is now accepted as a 'gift of nature'. Little or no attempt is made for woods improvement, increased or long-term management.

Some Forest Facts

The Eastern Townships Forestry Association, with headquarters at Sherbrooke, Quebec, has recently published a booklet entitled "Forest Facts in the Eastern Townships". This forty-page publication covers seventeen counties. Data is based on the 1951 federal census, plus other information from commercial timber limits.

Calculations made from the figures for Compton County in this booklet show some interesting facts. The average 120-acre farm in the County would likely have about 45 acres in woodlot. The importance of farm woodlots to the some 2,000 farm families living there can be seen from the following table.

(1) Value of Forest Products Sold	**$473,084.**	
Value of Maple Products Sold	**$123,712.**	
Total Sales		**$596,796.**
(2) Value Forest Products Used on Farm or Unsold	**$163,949.**	
Value Maple Products Used on Farm or Unsold	**$ 44,765.**	
Total Farmer Unsold		**$208,714.**
(3) Total Value Woodlot Products		**$805,510.**

In other words the annual production from the average farm woodlot in Compton amounts to nearly $400.00 per farm.

The Macdonald Program

Macdonald College has taken a progressive attitude towards education in forestry for several years. Lectures on woodlot management given on the campus have been available to students, with instruction given by recognized leaders in woodlot management instruction.

A good example of Tree Farm practice. This mixed-wood stand has been selectively cut (thinned) to give evergreens below room to grow.

The appointment in July 1955, of Mr. A. R. C. Jones as woodlot instructor and manager of the college woodlot is the most progressive step yet taken in forestry by an agricultural college in Canada. It is certain that students who have taken this instruction will be much better qualified to manage their woodlot acres for profit. They can also encourage development of Tree Farm Committees in their home territories, in co-operation with other agricultural and business leaders, and with assistance from provincial and industrial foresters.

Quebec Farmers in Good Position

Quebec is recognized as the leading province for the pulp and paper industry in Canada, particularily in production of news-print for export to the United States and other markets. This industry has given Canada a commanding position in that item of foreign trade. The industry, which obtains much of its raw material from Quebec farms, provides income for mill workers and for farm owners.

Other sources of income from farm woodlots and tree farms are available to the fortunate owner of a good Quebec woodlot. The St. Lawrence Valley produces more maple syrup and sugar than any other territory in Canada. High-grade veneer logs of yellow birch and hard maple are in great demand and the supply is becoming increasingly scarce. The saw-log, using hardwoods and softwoods, is of considerable size in the province. In fact, the *total* amount of wood produced in Quebec for all purposes is greater than that from any other province, including British Columbia, where only the saw timber volume exceeds that of Quebec.

The possibilities in this province, with its vast industrial expansion hinging on the St. Lawrence seaway development, and on increasing mineral and water power developments, show the need for wood and other celullose products to be constantly increasing. The Tree Farmer

who makes the most of every acre of his forest land, using the same scientific, intelligent management as he does on his other crop lands, will be in a preferred position. He can increase his present farm income, and maintain a permanent income from the rougher portions of the farm. Such areas are unsuitable for any other production than that of wood products, but they are ideally suited to this Tree Farming activity.

Trees are a Crop —

Billion Dollar Business

CANADA'S 131 pulp and paper mills from coast to coast pay out more than $1 billion a year. Large expenditures like this help stimulate trade everywhere in Canada. As a matter of fact this industry's expenditures generate one out of eight dollars of the national income.

Each year the pulp and paper industry pays out $200 million for transportation; $96 million for chemicals and mill supplies; $47 million for fuel; $30 million for electricity; and a further $115 million for goods, services and raw materials. Woods and mill workers are paid nearly $400 million, while taxes and other payments to governments amounts to another $200 million.

Wood lot sales are a 40 million dollar crop for Canadian farmers with about $16 million of this from sale of pulpwood. Farming too is big business with yearly expenditures of over $1 billion dollars. Canada's big four basic industries are farming, pulp and paper, mining, and fisheries. Without them the rest of our industrialized economy would soon grind to a halt.

FARM FORUM
— News and Views —

by Leslie G. Young

Notes on Discussion Topics

In spite of adverse weather conditions on the night of Jan. 30th a large number of Farm Forums managed to meet. Attendance climbed during this series to hit a high of 893 persons reported at Forum meetings on February 13th.

The FAMILY FARM — this topic directly concerned every member. There was almost unanimous agreement that the family farm was a desirable feature of Canadian agriculture. However, eleven of the reporting Forums thought that present farming trends, combining with the farming conditions which we now face, would force this unit to disappear.

High on the list of changes considered necessary if the family farm is to survive are those pertaining to the financial aspect of farming. Prices, net return, efficiency, loan facilities, size of units and working hours were all factors which Forums believed would have to improve. Gore in Huntingdon were of the opinion that "the family farm of the future needs to be 100-200 acres in size, efficiently run, diversified, mechanized, and with good markets. No wise farmer would place all his eggs in one basket. Changes may be needed in levying of taxes on land, as the individual farmer may own acres of land but not have returns from same to warrant high tax bills."

The broadcast of February 6th, which dealt with FATHER-SON PARTNERSHIPS, certainly stimulated plenty of discussion. Findings indicated that there are at least 11 points to consider when drawing up such agreements.

1. Size of farm — is sufficient income for two families?
2. Living quarters — is there adequate living accomodation?
3. Size of family — are there other heirs besides the one son?
4. Personalities and character — do father and son have compatible personalities?
5. Records — is there a bookeeping system which is satisfactory to both?
6. Insurance — is there enough, and is there an arrangement for division satisfactory to both?
7. Authority to transact business — can one party carry on if one is sick or absent?
8. Transfer date — is there a definite date set for the transfer of ownership?
9. Method of transfer — what are the arrangements for transferring proprietorship?
10. Agreement and understanding — do both parties agree to and understand the contract fully?
11. Legality — will the contract be valid in a court of law?

There was a wide range of opinion as to method to be used to transfer proprietorship. Suggestions included — by will at father's death; sale to son during father's lifetime; by father gradually increasing son's equity in farm through donations. Majority of the forums agreed with Chateauguay East which replied: "We consider transfer of the business during the father's lifetime a preferable arrangement. It is fairer to the son, and it also saves succession duties. Also suggested mutual insurance, then if the father dies his son is in a position to pay off father's heirs and if son dies the widow will be provided for."

The last topic of the series — GOVERNMENT OR PRODUCER MARKETING BOARDS — resulted in several comments that not enough was known about farm marketing boards. Because marketing has become so involved, most forums considered it would be necessary to have a board made up of both producer and government representatives. Arundel No. 1 gave the following answer which was typical of many although there were some forums which preferred an all producer or all government board. "We think that producer marketing boards

with limited government assistance should regulate volume of production and marketing."

The fourth night broadcast took a somewhat different form and Milby reported that they had found it much more informative than some have been. Social evenings were the order for some forums after the broadcast had been heard.

Cookshire District forums met in conjunction with the Cookshire Seed Fair. Programs were combined and the local Agricultural Society tendered a baked bean supper for all participants at the close of the evening. Reports say that it added to the forum meeting and the seed fair and at the same time eliminated an extra outing for the members.

Dr. H. G. Dion spoke to a large assembly of forum members in Lachute High School. His talk covered changes in farming to date, and changes which he thought would take place in the future.

Forum Whisperings

First, a proposed change in Quebec Farm Forum Association — hardly a whisper now. The executive met Feb. 18th and after careful consideration drew up and recommended for adoption, a new constitution which carries with it some major changes. Among these is a zoning system, clarification of policy, new method of forum representation, and a slight alteration of the name. Every change was supported by a sound and valid reason and it is hoped that it will solve some of the problems which have been facing the association.

Rawdon forums asked the rest of the Quebec forums to help support them in their efforts to back the request of the U.C.C. for a price of $20 a cord for pulpwood. Accordingly the executive authorized the distribution of a form to each forum which they might use if they were in agreement with the request.

A recent letter from Papineau District indicated that the fire prevention authorities from Quebec City were going to meet with local forums in an effort to advise them as to the best type of firefighting equipment for that area. Some Pontiac forums are embarked on a similar project. Both developments stemmed from a broadcast early in the season.

Secretary's Notebook

The forum season is almost over for another year. I think that while we have not accomplished any major feats, we save not suffered any major losses either.

At the executive meeting of Feb. 18th, some very radical changes were recommended in the organizational structure of the association. These alterations were subject to much consideration, pro and con, and recommended only if they were judged as improvements.

However, still with us is the problem of keeping contact with the forums during the summer period. Full time employment of a secretary has been suggested, also a proposal for the printing of a monthly bulletin or newsletter to be sent to each forum. Undoubtedly there will be arguments of "too busy", but I think most people would enjoy the breaking work, particularly if they were left with the option of meeting whatever evening was most convenient. After all, it's only once a month.

Also on my mind is the annual meeting. I think it should be possible to have two persons from each forum meet once a year at Macdonald College. It would give us badly needed publicity, new acquaintances, and a broader outlook and better understanding of our brother farmers. $3 should cover the cost of bringing the most distant representatives to the meeting except providing for lunch which could be done without too much extra charge.

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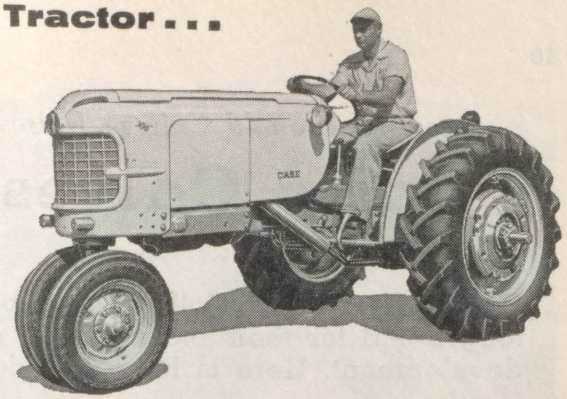

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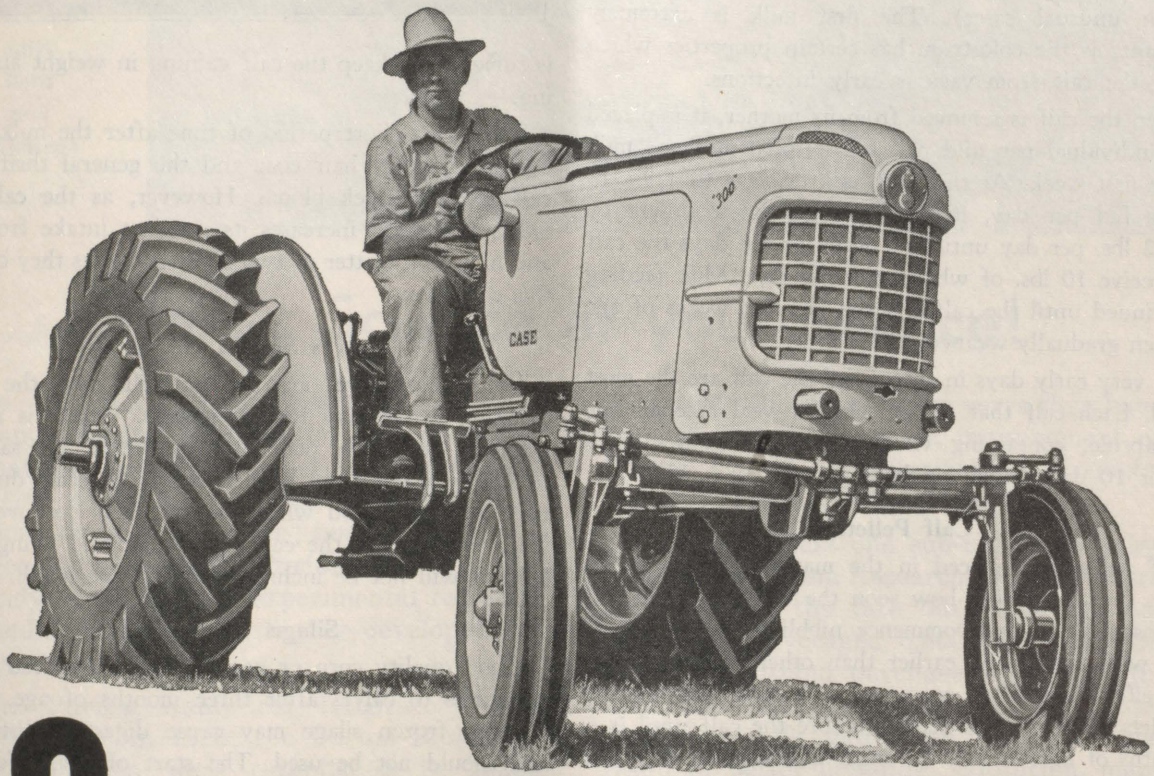
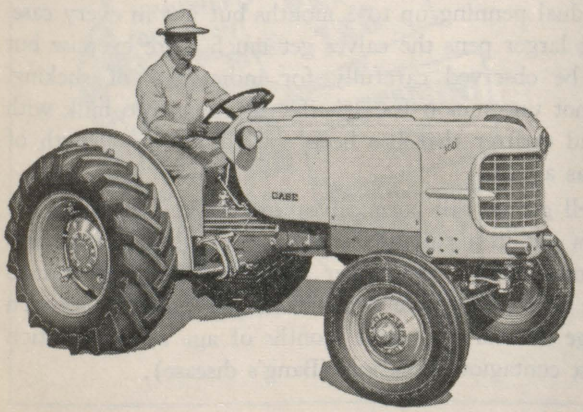


12 speeds
evenly spaced, overlapping gear speeds forward, all the way from 1.6 to 20 MPH... plus three reverse speeds.



- ★ **Powr-Torq Engines...gas, LPG, distillate, diesel**
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Bursting with features that put thrilling new meaning into performance and horsepower . . . the Case "300" brings to life your dream of the ideal in modern 3-plow tractors. For the first time in any tractor the "300" offers you an amazingly simple, easy-shifting Tripl-Range transmission that makes full use of engine power . . . plus a host of other new advantages . . . for job versatility never before achieved. See your Case dealer now about the new Case "300" . . . you'll agree it sets a new trend in tractors. Ask about the sensible Case Income Payment Plan. For colorful "300" catalog, write J. I. Case Co., Racine, Wis.

How Macdonald College Raises

Dairy Calves

by A. R. Ness

Dairy calves at the College have been long noted for their bloom, thrift, and development. Here is how it is done.

THE FIRST feeding for a calf is the mother's first milk or colostrum. The calf is allowed to remain with the cow to nurse and in that way receive the colostrum (except in unusual cases). The first milk is extremely important, as the colostrum has certain properties which protect the calf from various early infections.

When the calf is removed from its mother, it is placed in an individual pen and pail fed its own mother's milk for the first week. At the start as little as 3 to 4 lbs. of milk is fed per day, increasing the amount slowly by about 2 lbs. per day until in a week or ten days the calf will receive 10 lbs. of whole milk per day. Milk feeding is continued until the calf is seven or eight weeks of age and then gradually weaned.

The very early days in the life of the calf are the most critical. Each calf that is not sold for veal receives one calf capsule, containing vitamins and antibiotics, each day for 10 days following birth.

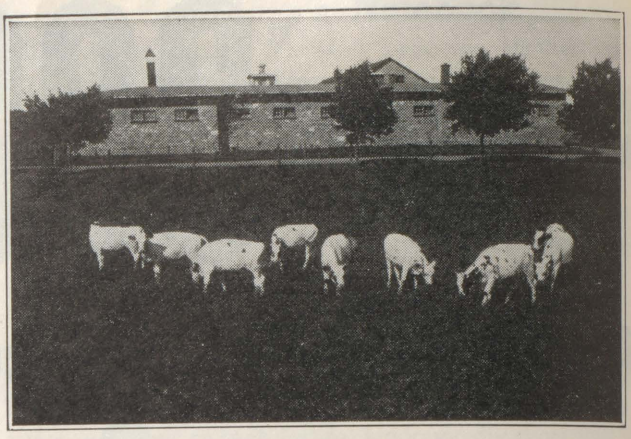
Calf Pellets

Calf pellets are placed in the manger at two weeks of age. It is surprising how soon the curious young calf will nose around and commence nibbling at feed. Some calves will start eating earlier than others. In each case, every effort is made to encourage this early consumption of pellets. This pelleted feed is before the calf until it is 4 months of age. It will eat small quantities at first and at no time in the four month period is the calf allowed to consume more than four pounds per day. At four months of age, a gradual change is made from the pelleted feed to a home made grain mixture consisting of the following:

500 lbs. crushed oats
100 lbs. ground barley
100 lbs. glutein
100 lbs. bran
200 lbs. Linseed oil meal
10 lbs. salt
20 lbs. bone char
2 lbs. Cod liver oil
1/10 oz. potassium iodide

Hay Feeding

Usually some of the best quality hay is set aside for the calves and small quantities are offered, as soon as they will eat hay. Frequently the calf will start eating hay between 2 and 3 weeks of age. Although the quantities eaten at this age are small, fresh hay, preferably of a legume grass mixture, is given daily. By this method of feeding, the calf is encouraged to consume the pellets and hay as soon as possible. In many cases the milk feeding period can be shortened, if the nutrient intake



is sufficient to keep the calf gaining in weight and growing.

There is a short period of time after the milk feeding ceases when the hair coat and the general thrift of the calf seems to lack bloom. However, as the calf grows older, it quickly increases its nutrient intake from grain and hay. In a matter of two or three weeks they overcome this condition.

Calves Should Get Water

While the calves are on the milk diet, the lack of drinking water may not be serious. Water is required, however, during the pellet feeding period. The safest way to supply water is to have it before the calf during the milk feeding period when the calf will not over drink. Then later, when the calf is off milk and living on dry feed, it will not be inclined to drink too much.

Silage for Calves

Good quality corn or grass silage can be fed in small quantities to calves after three months of age. Mouldy or even frozen silage may cause digestive disturbances and should not be used. The start of silage feeding is delayed during mid-winter to avoid the possibility of encountering frozen silage.

Other Points

Shortly after the milk feeding period is over, the calves are placed in larger pens of three or four to the pen. The habit of sucking can usually be overcome with individual penning up to 3 months but not in every case. In the larger pens the calves get much more exercise but must be observed carefully for indications of sucking. It is not uncommon for a heifer to come into milk with a blind quarter that has been sucked for any length of time as a calf.

Well grown fall born calves and unbred yearlings are always put in a pasture by themselves. Bred heifers and dry cows are put in another pasture. All calves retained in the College herd are vaccinated with Strain 19 between the age of four and eight months of age as a protection against contagious abortion (Bang's disease).

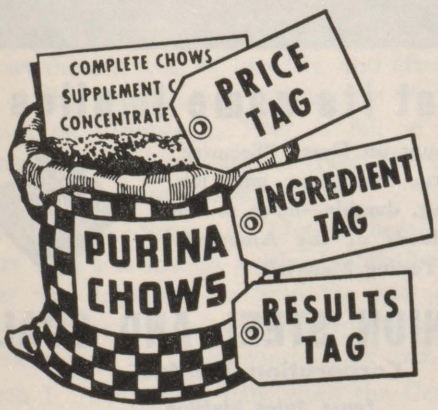
Part of the Purina Research Farm dairy herd and buildings

Here's Science at your Service!

The Ralston Purina Company has been manufacturing "Chows" for over 60 years. That long period of experience and observation ought to teach anyone a good deal about feeds and feeding; but to its experience and observation Purina adds intensive study of college and experimental research results, and its own highly developed research system.

The Purina Analytical Laboratory was established in 1916; the Purina Biological Laboratories were established in 1920; Research Farm, 1925; Pathological Laboratory, 1939. During all these years they have been steadily at work on improvement of Purina Chows and Sanitation Products, and their results to the feeder.

Let's look at just one sub-unit. The dairy herd at the Purina Research Farm numbers over 150. In the late '20's, the original grade cows averaged 6,800 lbs. milk, 238 fat. Now, without purchase of a single female, their descendants average more than 14,000 lbs. milk, more than 500 fat . . . the result of better breeding, sanitation, management, and *feeding . . . applied science.*



Ordinarily, there's only one tag on a bag of feed—ingredients and analysis. In your mind's eye you add a price tag. But the really *important* tag is one you never see—the reult tag. That's the one which tells its real value. And that's the one with which Purina Research . . . practical applied science . . . is primarily and intently concerned.

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Beef Cattle Selection . . . Performance or Show Ring?

Beef animals which mature quickly and put on weight economically meet today's market needs. Beef consumers prefer the type of cuts produced from younger, lighter animals with desirable conformation and finish.

In recent years, cattlemen have become increasingly aware that performance — not so much in the show ring but in the breeding pen and feed lot — can be rated and used as a tool for improvement.

Breeders of beef cattle have for years had the show ring. It has had a tremendous impact upon the kind of carcass beef cattle now produced. It has also influenced feeding qualities and age at maturity.

Selection of sires, based on show ring standards, at one time was capable of making rapid improvements in commercial and even purebred herds. To-day more refined methods of selection are needed.

Studies have indicated that the ability of a cow to wean a heavy calf is highly repeatable. This characteristic is a very important source of variation in the cost of producing beef. Bulls of equal merit by visual means may show large differences in their ability to sire calves from comparable cows. The progeny of such sires may differ markedly in weights, grades, feed lot performance, carcass grades, and of course in their returns to the cattle producer and feeder. Bull calves which make the best records of performance on standard tests are the ones which sire the best performing calves on similar tests.

Performance tests should be a part of the breeders' appraisal system to help guide him in the selection of his breeding stock. The goals of the purebred breeder and the commercial producer must be the same. It is important to both that tests of breeding stock should include regularity of reproduction, mothering ability of the cow. feedlot performance, and some appraisal of probable carcass merit.

— Extracted from a speech by
Professor Doyle Chambers
Oklahoma A & M College
Published by the Meat Packers
Council of Canada.

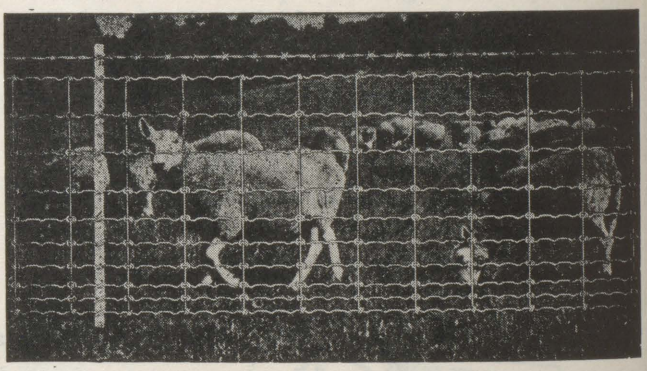
1955 Livestock Market Briefs

MARKETINGS: Net marketings at stockyards, direct to packing plants and direct on export in 1955 totalled: cattle 2,041,124 increase 3.0 per cent; calves 911,384, increase 8 per cent; hogs 5,924,258, increase 16.2 per cent; sheep 603,281, increase 5.0 per cent.

PRICES: Not only did cattle prices average higher in 1955 than in 1954 but the year's trading was featured by a regularity of supply and steadiness in price levels perhaps never before equalled. The average price of good steers at Toronto stayed within limits of $19-$20 throughout the year and similar trends were experienced elsewhere. The fall period when prices ordinarily sag under heavy marketings was no exception, the market showing ability to absorb offerings cleared readily. The all-Canada average for good steers was 40 cents above the previous year at $18.55 cwt. All markets were higher except Calgary and Lethbridge where, lacking the previous strong outlet to the U.S. Pacific Coasts, prices ruled a little lower than in 1954. Demand for feeder cattle was strong enough to take the largest number on record off stockyards at prices averaging 60 cents cwt. above 1954, the average on good feeder steers standing at $16.50. Good veal calves averaged $22.25 for all markets, up 40 cents. Hogs declined from January to May when an upswing brought them to the year's high around $31 at Toronto at the end of June. Holding at around $28 or better until October, sharply increased supplies and declining United States markets forced the level down to below $24 at Toronto. The all-Canada grade A average for 1955 was $24 compared with $30 a year earlier. Good lambs had an average of $18.85 as against $20.10 in 1954.

MEAT SUPPLY: Domestic disappearance of meats from commercial livestock marketings in 1955 was 8 per cent more than in 1954. Beef increased 3 per cent, veal was down 3 per cent, pork was 17 per cent more, and mutton up 7 per cent.

DOSCO "SECURITY" FENCING



All that its name implies!

You can count on Dosco "Security" for any farm fencing or gate job. Good looking, durable—made to the rigid standards of the American Society for Testing Materials.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec Department of Agriculture

With The Pure Bred Breeders

The Quebec Society of Purebred Breeders is a grouping of ten other provincial associations, and the total membership registered in the parent society for 1955, was 3,720. These members registered 19,317 head of livestock and transferred title to 13,230, in the proportions below

	Registrations	Transfers
Dairy cattle	14,554	9,069
Beef cattle	1,502	1,359
Horses	168	381
Sheep	1,359	1,011
Hogs	1,734	1,410

These figures represent an appreciable drop in registrations and transfers, which in 1954 amounted to 20,385 and 14,535 respectively with the greatest decline being in dairy cattle. A noteworthy item is that there was an increase of 22% in membership among breeders of beef cattle during 1955. While these figures point to a decline in pure bred breeding in Quebec, officers of the Society see no need for pessimism; they are sure that their business is in fundamentally sound shape and that they are in a position to take instant advantage of any improvement in general conditions.

Among achievements during 1955, the Society presented a brief to the newly-formed Association of Exhibitions, in which were pointed out some of the items which should be given consideration as they affect livestock classes at our fairs. It was also pointed out that the Purebred Breeders Association had been largely instrumental in the formation of the Association of Exhibitions, whose primary task will be to try to regularize rules and regulations of the various Class A and B fairs in Quebec.

The Society invited Pierre Labrecque to give the members an outline of the way the Artificial Insemination Centre at St. Hyacinthe had been organized. Mr. Labrecque pointed out it was in 1942 that this subject began to attract the attention of breeders, and after a thorough study of the question, the Minister of Agriculture introduced, on October 2, 1947, a bill in the Quebec Parliament to establish, at St. Hyacinthe, a provincial artificial insemination centre.

The Livestock Service at Quebec began at once to organize such a centre on a solid foundation. Dr. Ernest Mercier was appointed to head the new organization, a post which he retained until the spring of 1951, when the present chief Ls. N. St. Pierre, took over.

March 1, 1948, is the date when the Centre actually commenced to function and the first artificial insemination was performed on April 29 of that year. Perhaps it was an omen of the success that was to attend the Center's operations that the first service was successful and produced a heifer calf.

It was decided at the outset that the organization should be built around breeders clubs and the first of these was set up at St. Hyacinthe on April 29th, 1948 with 152 members. Before long there were 15 in operation whose 971 members had 1,115 registered and 3,178 grade cows served by the centre, where 6 Ayrshire and 5 Holstein bulls had been installed. The fifteen original clubs consisted of St. Hyacinthe, Ormstown, Huntingdon, Baue-du-Febvre, Gentilly, Ste. Martine, Chambly, St. Germain and Cap St. Ignace.

At the present time there are 35 clubs in action, distributed pretty well all over the Province of Quebec, and this is all that the Centre can handle under its present set-up, for these 35 clubs have a total of 6,798 members among them. The number of services, as well as the number of clubs, has continued to increase, and while in 1948-49 a total of 4,393 cows were served, in 1954-55 there were 30,285 services, or a total since the Centre started operations of 139,480.

The percentage of non-returns has shown a steady upward trend, from 49% when the service started in 1948, and everything possible is being done to bring it up to what is considered normal, i.e. 70%. In 1953 a percentage of 66% was reached.

With new quarters which were completed during the season 1954-55 the Centre is now well equipped for the many laboratory services which are required. A project which is receiving much attention at the Centre is the preservation of semen by freezing, a process which first was attempted in England in 1952, followed by similar work in the United States a few months later. A temperature of 75° below zero is necessary to keep semen viable, and it has been found that semen can be kept, in good condition, almost indefinitely, making it possible to establish "banks" all over the country for use when needed.

Mr. Labrecque hopes that artificial insemination will continue to increase in popularity in this province, pointing out that much missionary work is necessary to convince breeders of the value of this method of propagation of high quality livestock. In this connection he emphasized the necessity for adequate milking records, and feels very strongly that more use should be made of the provincial postal R.O.P. system.

The Farm Comes To The City

It is obvious that the people of the city are interested in the doings of the people of the country. The National Salon of Agriculture, which staged its fourth successful presentation in the Show Mart in Montreal for ten days in February was host to more than 100,000 visitors during its run.

True, all the visitors were not from the city. Many farmers came to see the displays of the latest in agricultural machinery, to attend the various meetings of farm organizations that had been arranged to coincide with the programme of the Salon, and to tour through the exhibits that had been set up by industrial firms who had on show anything that could conceivably be of interest to the farmer. But out of such a large crowd the bulk of them must have been Montrealers.

They saw demonstrations and displays that covered the whole field of farming, the processing of farm crops and their marketing. The farm machinery firms were out in force and the centre space in the vast exhibition hall (which is becoming too small to handle the crowds and the exhibits) was filled with samples of the latest in mechanized tools, from the smallest to the largest. Practically every chemical that could protect crops from insects and diseases was on display, as were the latest offering of the feed manufacturers.

New Brunswick, with an exhibit of potatoes, and Nova Scotia with apples, had a commanding place at the entrance, and the workers in these booths were kept busy handing out pamphlets extolling the virtues of the eastern provinces as holiday resorts. A day at the Salon was set aside for each of these provinces, when Ministers of Agriculture Sherwood and Chisholm were guests of honour.

The State of Vermont came with an elaborate exhibit featuring birdsfoot trefoil and apples, and it is unfortunate that part of their exhibit was held up at the border and never got to the Salon at all. Vermont also had its special day, when J. l'Heureux, United States Consul General and the Commissioner of Agriculture for Vermont, Mr. Elmer Towne, were honoured.

We managed to photograph the exhibits of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia at one of the rare moments when they weren't completely obscured by the crowds

Macdonald College's booth at the Salon demonstrated the stages in the production of a new variety of oats

More attention was given this year to items of particular interest to the lady visitors. There were fashion shows featuring practically everything up to and including mink coats. There were demonstrations on preparing lunches, arranging flowers, interior decorating and the use of fabrics. And many manufacturers of household equipment had set up displays which were well patronized.

Education Stressed

Organizers of the Salon are determined to hold it to its educational purposes; they see it as a place where not only will city people gain some insight into how farmers live and what they work with, but also as an opportunity for farmers to increase their skills and knowledge. To this purpose they organized a series of contests, some of which could be entered only at the Salon, others of which could be done by correspondence, and details of the various contests were sent out to organized groups of farmers all over the province well in advance of the actual show. Substantial prizes paid from funds subscribed by the Federal and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, the Provincial Department of Colonization, and a large number of public-spirited industrial firms, were offered for each contest.

For visitors to the Salon there was the Booth Contest, which consisted of filling out questionnaires having to do with the products displayed in the various booths. Those who took part were encouraged to ask questions of the attendants at the booths to help fill in the answers, and while this was obviously good business for the ex-

hibitors, it ensured that people found out more about the displays than they might by merely passing in front of them.

For junior farmers there was the type classification contest, which called for each boy to judge a class of four dairy cows and to place them in accordance with the usual type classification categories. Top prizes for this were two purebred calves, an Ayrshire from Roland Pigeon's herd, and a Holstein from New Brunswick.

Members of 4-H clubs, students at agricultural schools and certain other groups of young people were encouraged to enter an essay-writing contest, the essay, of not more than 1000 words, to be written following their visit to the Salon.

The contest on agricultural knowledge was the most elaborate, and consisted of an oral quiz conducted at the Salon in a booth set up for this purpose. Members of the agronomic staff of the province acted as examiners and were kept busy every hour of the day that the booth was open for business. In this as well as the other contest every effort was made to encourage participation by both French and English speaking visitors. Copies of the questions had been sent out through the province in advance, and many contestants came with the questions well prepared by a lot of homework. The test could also be written at home and the answers mailed in, if the contestant was unable to get to the Salon in person.

Livestock

There are no good facilities for displaying livestock at the Salon, but nevertheless, either on the main floor or in the basement, the crowds had a chance to see something of Quebec's farm animals. Holsteins held the spotlight upstairs, and had more comfortable quarters than the beef cattle, sheep, poultry and rabbits that were in the basement. The crowds were quite evidently interested to see beef on the hoof, lamb chops walking around, and the cages of poultry and rabbits held their attention. They didn't seem to be too sure just what kind of animal the Brahma bull was, though.

Education The Primary Purpose

The Salon's hardworking president, Gustave Toupin, never lost an opportunity to stress the educational purpose of the show, and hopes that in future years even more can be done in this respect. In keeping with this theme was the exhibit of the Quebec Department of Agriculture, which brought out vividly the losses than can occur through insect damage and disease, and where bulletins on crop protection were available. In a booth manned by experts, advice was freely given on problems of growing crops, and this was particularly appreciated by local home-owners anxious to find out how to improve the look of their property. Macdonald College had a display showing the steps in the creation of a new variety of grain. Various displays preached the virtues of co-operation. The theme of education was evident throughout the whole show.

Examiners conducting the quiz on farming knowledge were busy all week!

A collection of farm implements of pioneer days (loaned by Macdonald College) made an interesting exhibit for the Bulletin des Agriculteurs

The Quebec Department of Agriculture featured Plant Protection

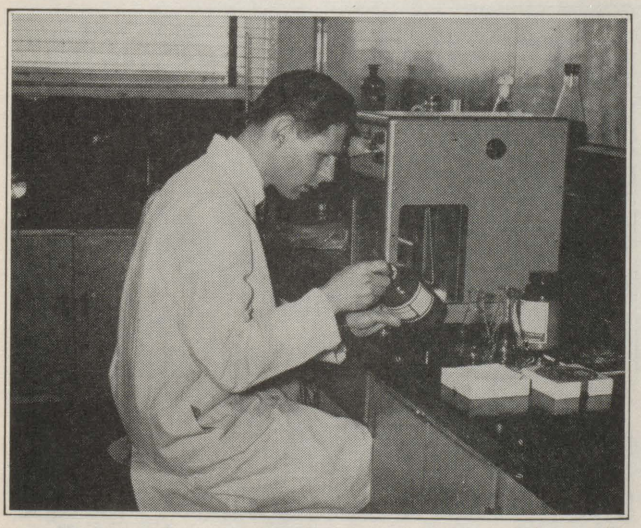
Apple Growers Received At St. John Laboratory

Pomologists of the Montreal area have become accustomed by now to being invited to the Science Service Laboratory at St. John, P.Q. during the winter months to talk over problems of insect and disease control with the experts on the staff there. The latest get-togethers took place on February 28th at the laboratory, for English-speaking growers, and on the following day at the Military College for the larger number of French growers.

We did not have the opportunity of attending the French meeting, but we expect that these growers are just as enthusiastic about the programme which has been initiated by the laboratory as are their English confreres. The entomologists and the plant pathologists always tried to be ready with suggestions and advice at the regular meetings of the Pomological Society in past years, but as anyone who attends annual meetings knows, delegates have a lot of things to do and a lot of friendships to renew and many of them don't get all they might out of sitting and listening to talk. But these meetings, set in the middle of the slack season and devoted to only one purpose, are proving very popular, and all the growers hope that they will be continued every winter.

The meetings are kept informal and intimate, and follow the general pattern of a short discussion on control measures advocated for specific insects and diseases, with a question period after each. The idea is not necessarily to recommend definite control measures for pests which may be expected in any one locality, but rather to discuss crop protection in rather a general fashion, noting what pests may be expected to appear next summer, and advice on general orchard practices which should be followed.

Taking codling moth as an example, Dr. Beaulieu, who is chief of the laboratory, pointed out that conditions during 1955 were such as to lead the experts to believe that a much heavier infestation than usual is likely to occur in 1956. A meeting like this gives the entomologist a chance to pass the warning on to the growers, and to put them on guard, prepared to use control measures at the proper time. Control of codling moth can be expected only if the insects are attacked during the first larval generation, and a relatively new material, Ryania, is being recommended. This insecticide is more effective than lead arsenate and has the added adavntage of not destroying the natural parasites and predators of the codling moth. It has a long residual effect, is not harmful to humans, and should be used in the first cover spray, though the second and third cover sprays are the most important ones.



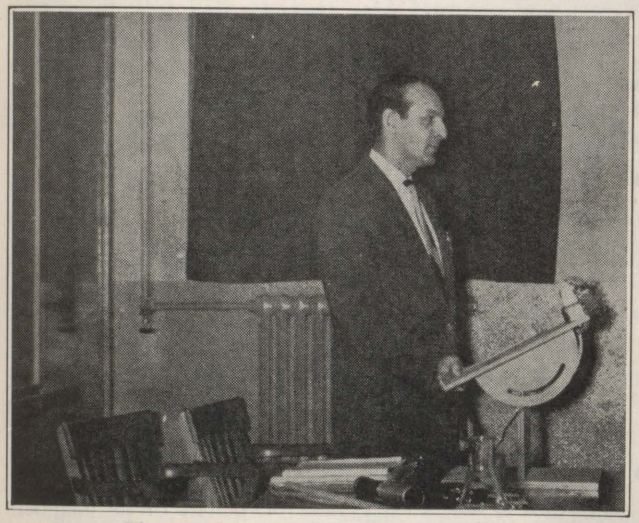
The Science Service laboratory is well equipped for work in entomology and plant pathology.

Benoit Parent noted a general increase in the incidence of European red mite in the past 10 years; this is an insect which builds up its population quickly in years of high early temperatures. Apple leaf roller may also become an important pest in 1956, according to present indications, and watch must be kept for the two-spotted mite.

It was emphasized throughout the meeting that only relatively few of the many insects that inhabit orchards are serious pests, though in some seasons factors may work together to cause an epidemic of some minor insect that ordinarily does no appreciable damage. There are half a dozen insects that have been in the orchards year after year, and it is these few that do the most damage. If growers could be persuaded to keep a more careful watch in their orchards for signs of pest during the winter and in the growing season, conditions requiring action could be spotted much earlier. As Mr. Beaulieu pointed out, a grower who finds something he doesn't recognize in his orchard may show it to his neighbours and try to get an idea of what it is. But the laboratory is only about an hour's drive at most from any orchard, and this puzzled grower would be much better advised to come to St. John with his specimens and find out exactly what the pest is and how to control it before it is too late to do much about it. The staff of the laboratory can't travel about the country making surveys on every orchard to tell the grower it is time to put on this or that spray; but they are always on hand to give advice whenever it is asked for, and are happy to do so.

Rene Crete has decided that tree surgery is still probably the best way to stop fireblight — another danger to orchards which has been with us for a long time. However, experiments have shown that streptomycin at the rate of 100 parts per million, which is about 6 ounces per 100 gallons, applied at the pink, full bloom and calyx periods, is an effective remedy. This can be used with Captan. Work using half this concentration showed that the solution was too weak.

Prof. Murray of Macdonald College had been invited to talk on irrigation of orchards, and his conclusion was that, in general, the investment required to set up an irrigation system in the average orchard in Quebec was not justified by the results that would be obtained. The control and conservation of moisture in an orchard can be done cheaply, and very effectively, by mulching, as was described by Prof. C. D. Taper. Experiments have been in progress at the College using various mulching materials; leaves, hay, orchard grass cut between the rows, and bark. All the materials prevented surface evaporation to a great extent and hence kept more moisture around the roots of the tree. Bark was not satisfactory for it soaked up the rainfall and prevented it from being absorbed into the soil. Hay, grass and leaves all proved effective in keeping soil moisture at a considerably higher level than around the check trees under clean cultivation.



Plant Pathologist Cinq-Mars in action.

In 1911 the Quebec Pomological Society sent a resolution to Ottawa asking for the appointment of a qualified man to deal with orchard pests in Southwestern Quebec. In July of 1912 C. E. Petch was appointed and a portable laboratory was erected at Covey Hill; this was moved to Hemmingford two years later. This unit was transferred to the new research building at St. John in 1952 when Mr. Petch retired after forty years of unsparing and effective work.

Before 1930 the federal entomologist serving this area was required to investigate major plant disease problems, such as apple scab and fire blight, in addition to studying insect problems, and the senior officer also engaged in plant inspection work until the Division of Plant Protection was established. Extensive studies were also carried out on insects in relation to fire blight, on bacterial control of grasshoppers, and on the control of rodents and tree borers. Important achievements include the introduction of the Quebec Orchard Spray Service and the general advancement of apple culture.

In May, 1940, at the request of vegetable growers and canning companies, a field crop insect laboratory was established, and a fruit insect section was added when the sub-laboratory at St. Hilaire was transferred. A pathology laboratory was added in 1949, and in December, 1952, all services moved into the present two-storey research building just off Gouin Boulevard in a newly-developed section of the city of St. John.

A Good Deal for Lime

MOST SOILS in Quebec are moderately to highly acid and require lime. The Quebec Department of Agriculture through its Lime Assistance Policy keeps costs to farmers low by paying freight subsidies on ground agricultural limestone.

This service of the Department is made available through the office of your County Agronome who makes all the necessary arrangements for you. Your Agronome is also in a position to recommend rates and methods of application of lime best suited to your soil conditions and cropping practices. Proper use of lime gives cropping results far in excess of costs. Every farmer should avail himself of this service.

What it means in Dollars and Cents

Ground limestone freighted in by rail in car lots is fully paid by the Department in areas where charges do not exceed $2.00 per ton. In parts of the province where freight costs are higher the Department also pays one-half of the charges over the $2.00 per ton limit.. Provision is made also for truck hauling from railroad sidings to the farm. Up to six miles from the siding no additional subsidy is paid but on longer hauls to the farm the Department pays 10 cents per ton per mile up to 20 miles or a total of $2.00 maximum. These provisions keep costs of limestone reasonable even in areas a long way from limestone quarries.

In areas where direct trucking from quarry to farm is more convenient, the Department will pay up to $2.00 per ton. The rate is 10 cents per ton per mile for the first 10 miles and 5 cents per ton per mile for the next 20 miles.

Several counties in the province, because of the generous program, pay very little more and sometimes no more than the cost of the ground limestone itself which varies from $2.10 to $2.35 per ton in bulk up to $3.35 per ton in bags.

With this kind of lime program in effect, there would seem little excuse for a Quebec farmer not providing his land with the lime it needs to grow better crops.

Marketing Act for Quebec Farm Products

A PROVINCIAL service to be known as the "Farm Marketing Board" to regulate, co-ordinate and facilitate the marketing of farm products is to be incorporated into the new farm products marketing act adopted during the recent session of the Quebec legislature. This kind of legislation has been requested for a long time by Quebec farm groups.

The Provincial Board will consist of 4 members who will be named by the lieutenant-governor in council for terms of 10 years.

Because of the importance of this new legislation in the future development of farm product marketing in Quebec, some of the main points are summarized here for Journal readers.

Purposes of the Board

- To aid and co-ordinate the diverse operations of farm products marketing.
- To find new market outlets and to improve present market outlets for Quebec farm products.
- To aids shifts in farm production so that advantages can be taken of various market conditions.
- Generally to work with the producers of farm products, co-operative organizations, farm organizations, consumer organizations, and representatives from the food products industry to develop an orderly, efficient and just marketing system for farm products.

Definitions

- MARKETING — includes sale, processing, purchase, storage and shipment for sale, offers for sale, and transportation of a farm products as well as advertising and financing of operations connected with the sale of a product.
- FARM PRODUCT — includes any product produced on the farm including livestock, hay, grain, maple products, wood products, dairy products, poultry products, etc.
- MARKETING PLAN — any producer plan for marketing a farm product including the regulations connected with it approved by the Provincial Board.

Powers of the Board

- To approve with or without modification or reject a marketing plan.
- To arbitate, to decide, to adjust or otherwise rule on disputes resulting from the initiation or operation of a Plan.
- To investigate the effects of costs of producing, selling, processing, distribution and transportation of any commercial product on the price, commercial outlets and grading methods for farm products.
- To establish negotiation agencies to facilitate agreements between producers and buyers.
- To exclude from a plan any class or variety of farm product.
- To suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew any licence for failure to observe or carry out any intention of the present law.

Operations of the Board

- The Board, which will be insulated from outside pressure and whose decisions may only be changed by the lieutenant-governor in council, will be aided by investigators and assisted by an Advisory Committee of experts from the provincial services and the agricultural industry.
- Ten producers or more in an area may request from the Board approval of a marketing plan for one or several categories of farm products in its area. Any association of producers will be able to do the same by following a similar procedure.
- When the Board approves a plan, it orders a referendum to be held of all producers in the area that will be affected by the proposed plan.
- The plan comes into force when approved by 75 percent (in number and in value) of the interested producers.
- The Plan, when published in the Official Gazette of Quebec, is binding on all producers and buyers of the farm products covered by the plan and within the area in which it applies.
- Any 'co-operative association' or "bona-fide" organization of buyers, consumers, truckers, and other persons affected by the plan can demand accreditation from the Board as representatives of the interested parties in the same category as the plan in question.
- If this accreditation is granted, this co-operative association is able to negotiate on behalf of its members with the producers included under the plan.
- If the producers' association and that of the buyers are not able to agree in their negotiations, the Provincial Board at the demand of one of the parties, will hand over powers of arbitration of the differences in a way that suits the interested parties, or will be able to proceed itself as arbitrator. Arbitration decisions will be binding.
- The lieutenant-governor in council will be able to make any additional arrangements, interpretations, or changes that are judged necessary or useful for the proper working of the act. The Board itself will be able to adopt regulations to regulate its own operations, and its mode of action in certain cases.
- Penalties under the marketing law carry fines of between $50 and $500 for second offenders. Any persons who buy at price below the prescribed minimum a farm product regulated under a marketing plan, will be liable to pay in addition to the fine, the difference between the price paid or agreed upon and the minimum price prescribed,over and above any legal expenses.

Weed Control Featured at Compton Seed Fair

"All out war on weeds" was the theme of the sixth annual Compton County Seed and Forage Crops Fair held recently in Cookshire. Started six years ago as a District Farm Forum project, the Fair has expanded steadily and is now sponsored by the local Agricultural Society. Exhibits were more numerous and of excellent quality, with several new exhibitors showing this year.

Top honours for highest aggregate score went to L. Couture, Lennoxville with second place to C. C. Warner also of Lennoxville. M. Ferland of the Canada Department of Agriculture and M. Robert of the Quebec Department of Agriculture, and W. S. Richardson of the Lennoxville Experimental Farm, spoke briefly. The talks and films on certified seed and weed control served to emphasize the need for sowing clean high quality seed and weed control measures both to improve the quality of the Fair exhibits and farming practices in general. As an example of what not to do, D. J. MacMillan, County Agronome, reported on a seed drill survey in 3 counties in Quebec which showed Oats sown were 49.1% rejects; Barley 33.3% rejects; and Mixed Grain 51% rejects. Talks and films were in French and English.

Other Winners

Hay Division	
Timothy	Carl Baily, Sawyerville
Mixed	H. Loomis, Waterville
Clover	Austin Bowker, Sawyerville
Silage Division	
Corn	E. Drovin, Flanders
Mixed	A. Bowker, Sawyerville
Grass & Clover	C. C. Warner, Lennoxville
Roots Division	
Turnips	D. Fraser, Cookshire
	Wm. French, Island Brook
	L. Couture, Lennoxville
Mangels	Gordon MacElrae, Lennoxville
	Ray Waldron, East Clifton
Potatoes	Gordon MacElrae
	L. Couture
	D. Fraser
Seeds Division	
Clover (red)	R. G. Hodge, Cookshire
	Wm. French, Island Brook
Beans	E. Bowker, Flanders
Buckwheat	W. A. Bishop, Sawyerville
Spring wheat (displays)	C. C. Warner and R. G. Hodge
Mixed Grain	L. Couture
	R. G. Hodge
Oats	
Vanguard	L. Couture
	C. C. Warner
Roxton	D. Fraser
	L. Couture
Beaver	R. G. Hodge
	Wells Coates, East Angus
Barley	
O.A.C. 21	E. Bowker
	L. Couture
Montcalm	L. Couture
Awards for Displays	
First prize	R. G. Hodge
Second prize	John Nicol & Sons

Popular feature of the Fair is the Junior Judging Competition which had 80 entrants this year. Dorothy Shelden, Cookshire, won first place in the junior division with Betty Painter, Island Brook, placing second. Fred Burns, Island Brook, topped the senior division with Theda Jackson placing second. Mr. Burns also won an award for highest aggregate in judging and honours for highest individual score.

Farm Forums in the District were well represented. President of the Provincial Farm Forum Association, Walter S. Hodgman and Provincial Vice-president R. G. Hodge took an active part in the organization and conducting of the Fair. Mr. Hodgman is Secretary-Manager of the Agricultural Society and the Seed Fair. General Chairman was Col. W. A. Bishop, with R. G. Hodge, Hollis Burns and D. J. MacMillan serving on the executive committee.

The Seed Fair, which has the distinction of being the first such locally organized show in Quebec has been a bi-lingual undertaking from the beginning.

— Mrs. Gordon French
Sawyerville

Champlain County's Five-Year Plan

So much progress came from the five-year plan in Champlain County of farm improvement, a programme which came to an official end last fall, that it has been decided to go ahead with another, starting this spring.

This was decided last month by those executives of various agricultural associations and societies of the county who will supervise the plan; Clement Beaupré, of the U.C.C.; J. M. S. Tessier representing the Agricultural Society; Ulysse Potvin, agronome and technical adviser; Miss B. Thibault, representing the Cercles Féminins; Robert St. Arnaud, of the Agricultural Syndicate; Alberic Massicotte of the farmers' clubs; J. M. Hivon representing 4-H clubs and Marcel Pintal speaking for the Young Farmers Clubs.

It was agreed that the same general programme that proved so successful in the past five years should be followed again. Any farmer who is a member of some agricultural organization is eligible to take part, and on entering the plan he agrees to follow to the letter the plan outlined for his farm for the next five years.

The plan is put into effect by stages. The first year the farmer spends in a general improvement of his fields, by draining, liming and fertilizing, first having a soil analysis made if possible. Milking records must be started during the first year, if they are not already being kept.

In the second year the milking herd takes the spotlight, and in the third year, while the improvements started in the first and second still continue, repairs and improvements to farm buildings start. Particular attention is given to special crops during the fourth year, and in the final year all facets of the farm organization are critically considered with a view to improvement.

To add spice to the programme, a Master Farmer is proclaimed at the end of each year and a suitable trophy is presented. Cash prizes go to the five who have been considered to have made the most improvement during the year.

Pre-Packaging of Fruits and Vegetables on the Farm

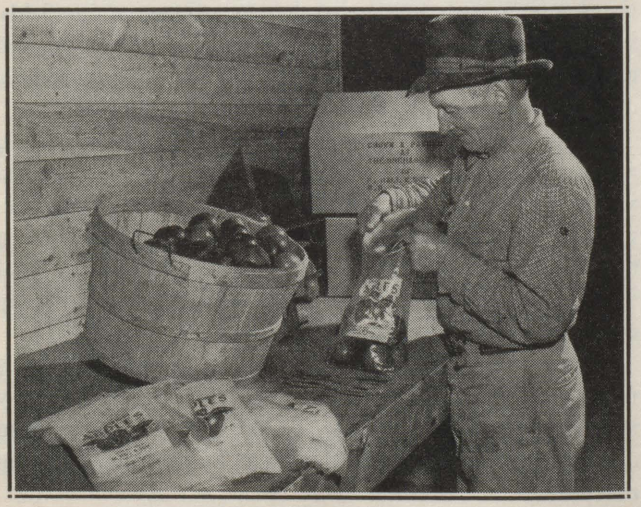
Pre-packaging of fruits and vegetables in polythene plastic bags, a practice wisely adopted by co-operatives and large-scale operators, has begun to win new converts among smaller farmers. It is claimed that pre-packaging on the farm better protects the quality and freshness of the produce. Wholesalers, retailers and consumers find such packaged products more attractive. This "middle-man" service done by the farmer himself pays well for the time and material used.

Here's how it's done by one Ontario apple and vegetable producer, Mel Hall and Son who operate a farm just outside Brockville. They grow corn, cauliflower, turnips and carrots but most of the cultivated land — some 23 acres — is in McIntosh orchards.

The Halls experimented with pre-packaging a year ago with cut-up turnips. Their experience convinced them this was the way to sell their apples also. Rented cold storage space is at a premium in this area, so the Halls built their own 5,000 bushel plant this summer. They feel with good harvests, pre-packaging, and a long marketing season that their cold storage investment will prove profitable. The storage room connects directly with the work area where movable roller conveyors speed all stages of the packaging operation.

When orders are received apples are removed from storage, very carefully selected for quality, weighed in three pound lots and slipped into the polythene bags. Brand identification and the Halls' name and address appear on each bag. The plastic packs are perforated with the proper number of ventilation holes which allow the fruit to "breath" normally. Bags are sealed with a simple paper covered wire closure. For shipping the Halls use strong partitioned cardboard cartons which hold a dozen packages.

— from DuPont Farm Progress



Why Hoe When You Can Spray?

The Department of Agriculture has completed an investigation begun to see whether Quebec Farmers still cling to the old mechanical method of weed control, or whether some of them are finding that spraying with herbicides can reduce their labour and probably give better results. County agronomes were asked for information, and a surprisingly large number of replies showed that weed spraying is being done in their districts.

Some sort of weed control by spraying is practised on 1,714 farms in 136 parishes in the province. A suitable sprayer is owned by 770 farmers, mostly by market gardeners in Montmorency, Three Rivers, Jacques Cartier and Laval counties. Counties where most of the chemical weed control programmes are in operation are Jacques Cartier, Laval, Richelieu, l'Assomption, Huntingdon, Compton and Matane.

According to the reports received, and these may not be all complete, chemicals have been used to control weeds on the following crops:

Cereals	7,235	acres
Corn	1,605	
Pastures	420	
Peas	1,638	
Special crops (gardens, small fruits)	3,536	
Ditches, etc.	1,030	
	15,464	acres

A number of agronomes intend to pay particular attention to this aspect of weed control during the coming summer, planning to organize some sort of spraying service through the local co-operatives.

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Dear Readers:

As I write this (some time before it will be published) the snow keeps on falling and piling up around buildings until we wonder where spring is hiding. It can't be far away, as I notice two young petunia plants which decided to spring up beside a pepper plant in January are losing their white colour and are turning green. Every time I look at the poor, pale things I remember the corn cobs we raised two years ago, that wet summer, and I know why there weren't any kernels on the cobs. According to an article one member read at Farm Forum it takes sunshine to make starch and the high content of corn is starch. Now, if my petunia plants were children I'd give them some cod liver oil as vitamin D also comes from the sun. That may be what they need.

In spite of all this snow I dug out long enough to go to the Quebec Farm Forum semi-annual meeting at the Mount Royal Hotel in Montreal.

And did I get the surprise of my life! I know what went on in this part of the country but when you add to that several more counties' projects and get everybody working together, well, all I can say is "I'm proud to be a Farm Forum member and part of a very active, well-educated group of Quebec farmers."

The reports came from Health Insurance plans, car insurance, co-operative buying of fertilizer, farm machinery, and marketing of hay. A new constitution and a discussion on a proposed Farmers' Organization, as well as a visit from Mr. Hannam C.F.A. president, made the meeting of great interest to me.

Now I am home again and have time to reflect and table my reactions to my new-found knowledge, and this is what I find. How futile it is for us to try to work alone. Farm organization, where we would work for each other, one for all and all for one, would be so much more successful. Possibly we just don't have the patience, and rush at things and get nowhere. It was apparent to me what working together through Farm Forums has done for us and what working in a Farmers' Association *could* do. It could lead to better prices for our products by doing away with surpluses and surplus-based prices. Did I hear you laugh? Well, let's try working together — don't you grant it would be worth a try?

One attack we could make on cutting surplus milk production, which is only 2½% of production, I understand, is by culling our herds and turning more to purebred, registered stock. There is a government bonus now established to aid us in this work. Our agronome told us about this policy at a recent Farm Forum meeting. The outcome could be a trade name for good cattle, similar to the good name for excellent hogs that Prince Edward Island has attained.

Are you worried about the surplus meat such a programme would bring onto the market? My answer to that is an advertising policy. Balogna (or perhaps I should use the more dignified name salami), frankfurters and hamburg are some of our most popular foods, but how often do you see them advertised?

This could be in the hands of a marketing agency, if we had one, which could sell our produce for us at the proper times. It could mean a more steady flow of livestock to the market. It could act as a negotiating board for a fair deal for all of us.

Then there was quite a bit of satisfaction on my part on hearing the arranged dates of Canadian Federation of Agriculture and Farm Forums meeting with members of Parliament and farm legislation coming in both the Dominion and Provincial legislatures. Our Forum has written to our member asking him to inform us of what takes place at the provincial session regarding the farmers' position.

The folks around here are cleaning oats, sorting over potatoes, carrots, and shelling beans. If they are satisfied with the quality they have you will have seen them at the Sed Fair. Farm Forums were invited to attend in the evening.

On Monday night we are taking orders for fish again. This will be our second order. It is a co-operative venture which has been successful for four years. By working together we get some very good fresh fish at nearly half the local prices; though local prices do drop when they have some competition.

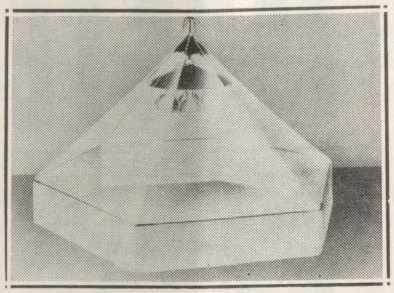
The boss brought home an amusing tale from the woods when he came in. He was working with Donat when the walking boss came along and offered to help them load the sled. The cant-dogs were all in use so he picked up a skid and pried away at the heavy logs. "By gosh," Donat said, "de old man lift hard today — see right between his skid an' de log!"

Well, here's hoping we'll have a Federation of Agriculture some day, and not lag so far behind the rest of the provinces in our ability to organize.

Sincerely,

Wally.

Another Use For Polyethylene



Chick brooders covered with polyethelene film can, it is claimed, save up to 50% of the usual heating cost and chicks do not crowd together under the lights, because the heat is distributed evenly under the cover. The Rhinehart Company of Fort Wayne claim that the overall effectiveness of a conventional four-lamp brooder is increased up to 60% with the use of the polythelene hover, and maintain that at least 2 cents per chick is saved.

The hovers as manufactured by this company are six-sided, five feet in diameter, weigh about 2½ pounds and hold 500 chicks each. They can be cleaned easily with soap and water.

Milk From Peanuts

Indian scientists have found a way to make a milk substitute from peanuts.

Researchers at the Central Food Technical Research Institute at Mysore, India, say the milk substitute is about 80 percent as efficient as reconstituted whole milk from a dietary standpoint. It can be fortified with calcium in a colloid at 100 mg. to each 100 cc of the peanut milk.

The researchers say the fortified peanut milk offers a practical way of improving Indian diets which are generally deficient in calcium.

DON'T PINCH PENNIES *and* LOSE DOLLARS

80% to 90% of the time and money spent on fence posts and fencing can be saved by using a wood preservative in the *first* place. Any post, even off your own property, whether Cedar, Pine, Spruce, Poplar and Willow can be made to last 3 to 5 times longer by simply treating the ground line with "Osmose Special Fence Post Mixture". "Osmose" contains 5 proven industrial wood preservatives, each more powerful than creosote, tar or bluestone. For as little as 4 or 5 pennies per post, you save many dollars later in money and labour replacing decayed posts. Use "Osmose" for poles and posts . . . for any wood in or near the ground.

Over 100 major power companies have "Osmose" treated more than 3,000,000 poles in U.S. and Canada.

WOOD ABOVE THE GROUND NEEDS PROTECTION TOO!

Doors, porches, barns, silos, anything made of wood can be damaged by moisture penetrating under the paint film . . . causing rot, discolouration, warping and peeling. *Before painting* bare wood, apply "Pentox" primer-sealer wood preserver. "Pentox" seals the pores of the wood against moisture with a synthetic resin preservative, saves paint, keeps the wood in good condition for years to come. "Pentox" also prevents termite attack.

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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes and to matters of interest to them

The Mid-Year "Stock Taking"

by **Glenna Taylor**

Revision of the Quebec Civil Code, Banning of Dangerous Toys, Crime Comics, Equal Pay for Equal Work, Education and Penal Reform were topics discussed by the Montreal Council of Women and the Board of the Quebec Women's Institutes at the Friday evening session of the semi-annual meeting, held the last of January in the Y.W.C.A., Montreal. Mme P. C. LeBeau, Home Economics and Handicrafts Division, Quebec, was a welcome guest at this "joint conference".

Mrs. G. D. Harvey, 1st vice-president and representative to the Council, and Mrs. H. F. Reusing, Council president, acted as joint chairmen, directing the discussions on the various subjects. Mrs. Sampson (Council) noted that crime comics are no longer sold in Montreal, due to the thorough work of the Council. Both groups are now working for a ban on the sale, import and manufacture of dangerous toys. Resolutions asking for this are being sent to both national organizations. Miss Gilchrist, also of the Council, spoke on the revisions to the Civil Code in Quebec. Here again a joint resolution was approved to go to the Commission working on the revision, asking for changes that would improve the status of the married woman in this province. Members were asked to try and enlist the support of their M.L.A.'s when the Commission presents its report.

Mrs. Cooke introduced the topic, "Equal Pay for Equal Work", and pointed out that the average wage difference is 44 % less for women. Teachers are among the class where great differences are especially noted. Even when women are in authority over men in the same office, men often take home the most pay. About the only women's work on a par are doctors and lawyers who can set their own fees.

Under the general heading "Education" library facilities was one aspect considered. There are 25,000 books in the travelling library with 60% of these being used in schools. Money is urgently needed to buy more children's books. Is the composite school serving as a community centre? many parents too far away, was one comment here. Members were brought up to date on what is being done for retarded children. At present there are five schools in Greater Montreal, one in Lachute and another in Sherbrooke (opened since the meeting).

On "Penal Reform" it was stated that the conditions are slightly improved at the Fullum Street Jail. A younger matron is now in charge. She is a trained nurse and takes an interest in the inmates. The building has been painted and now has a pleasant dining hall and recreation room. Inmates need clothing and games. However, mental cases are still housed there.

The Opening Session

On Friday afternoon Mrs. LeBaron welcomed the members and expressed thanks for greetings received at Christmas. It was interesting to hear that the essay written by Mrs. Ossington had been sent to the ACWW Competition; the topic "How the Organization to which I belong is contributing to World Peace". One member, Miss Mackenzie, was congratulated on her appointment as councillor in her home town. Thanks were read from Lady Nuttall, Q.W.I. representative on the ACWW Executive Committee, for her Christmas gift, a maple leaf pin.

The Board voted to raise F.W.I.C. fees from eight to 15 cents per capita (All provinces asked to do this if possible); this to be paid from provincial funds as usual. This is to help establish a National office and meet the cost of a national convention, a first one, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Women's Institute, 1957.

Hopes were expressed that Mrs. A. M. Berry, ACWW President, would be present for the Provincial Convention in June, when special entertainment will be provided. This will be held June 26-29 at Macdonald College.

Members were reminded that "no one can accept an invitation to represent the Q.W.I., on occasion, without approval of executive".

Committees

Suggestions were received and discussed on the functioning of the Nominating Committee. These will be considered further at the annual meeting. This Committee and the one on Resolutions were then named by the president. Nominating: Mrs. F. Robinson, Windsor Mills, (chairman); Mrs. E. McCartney, Valcartier Village; Mrs. J. C. Hopkins, Deschenes. Resolutions: Mrs. W. Graham, Ste. Anastasie (chairman); Mrs. A. C. Shennett, Quyon; Mrs. B. A. Turner, Lennoxville.

Reports

Miss McOuat reported on the places she has given classes and of her work, millinery holding the spotlight. She represented the Q.W.I. on the committee for the Salon of Agriculture. Miss Altimas also told of her classes in rug-making, slippers, jewellery, gloves and leather.

The treasurer said that five counties had made a 100% contribution to the Service Fund. Pamphlet circulations are up in the loan library but branch histories are still slow to come in.

An interesting event of the year was the arrival of "Ambika" the elephant from India for the Granby Zoo. The president had visited Gaspé and Bonaventure counties in the summer, attended a conference at Macdonald College in the fall, on "Food, Human Survival and the Christian" and two meetings, Quebec Council of Community Programs and a CAC Board meeting. She had also met Mr. L. H. Hall, President, Association for Help for Retarded Children, for further discussions on the current project.

Mrs. Cameron, JWI Supervisor, told about the success of the Rally. The sum of $100 was voted from the Q.W.I. Service Fund to subsidize this important project.

With the Convenors

"Keep up the fight for pasteurization" said Mrs. Brown, Agriculture and urged no rest until this was done. Miss Mackenzie, Education asked the Board to see to it that "STOP" signs were placed on all vehicles used for transporting school children. Mrs. Parsons, Home Economics, said one group had given toys various endurance tests and sent the results to the CAC. Mrs. Ossington, Citizenship reported that $75 had been received on UNESCO Gift Coupons. Some addresses for Exchange Programs were given — write Mrs. Ossington if you wish to take part in this fascinating project. Mrs. Coupland, Welfare & Health commended the support of Cancer Dressings Service and Mrs. H. F. Taylor, Publicity said *fresh* news, please.

Odds and Ends

Mrs. LeBaron spoke on the coming Conference in Ceylon and said that even now the people there are busy at work with plans for their many expected guests. Mrs. Harvey will be the Q.W.I. representative in the Canadian delegation, which will be travelling as a group.

This year's "Facts! Fingers! Fun!" was mentioned. The date is May 28 to June 1, and applications and programs will be out this month (March).

The schedule of county annual meetings was also presented. Final arrangements will be made with the counties through the office.

Mme LeBeau spoke briefly at this last session. She said it was good to think of the retarded children but not to forget the old who are left alone with no one to care about them. "If there is the need in your community why not try to do something about it?" she asked.

There was a good attendance at this mid-year meeting. Two members of the executive, Mrs. Thomson and Mrs. Ellard were unable to be present, owing to illness, and two counties, Bonaventure and Gaspé, were absent.

Mrs. LeBaDron, in her closing remarks, said she felt participation in all discussions had been at a high level. "May it help you in your work — and I'll see you in June!"

President of A.C.C.W.

As annual meetings and Institutes wing into their new year of plans and activities comes this message from our international president, Mrs. A. M. Berry.

"I am writing this message to you from lovely South-land, New Zealand, where I am enjoying a few days rest on the sheep run of a relation of mine. I shall soon be home again with my family in Queensland and as I sit and think of the past two years I wonder if it has all been a dream. So many countries, so many new friends, and so many happy memories.

"We cannot re-live the past, but we can plan for the future. I hope our planning may help to create a happier and more peaceful world.

"May 1956 bring to you all peace and prosperity, may the ties which bind us together be strengthened and when we come together for our triennial Conference, may our deliberations help to still further cement the friendship throughout the whole world."

We shall hope to greet Mrs. Berry in person, if plans for this year's visit to Canada carry through. All provinces are arranging a schedule for their conventions which allow her to attend them for part of the time, at least, our slightly later date making that possible for Quebec.

Office Happenings

Gift Coupons

From branch reports this month we get the following to add to the list of Institutes contributing to this project.

Wakeham	$25
Ascot	$25
Quyon	$10
Belvidere	$10

The last named also sent $12 to UNICEF.

Those branches who have a membership in the United Nations Association in Canada, will recall these Gift Coupons were spoken of at some length in the January mailing from the Ottawa office; how the plan works and some exciting stories of results.

Women's Voluntary Services

The annual meeting of this organization was held in February. Institutes who have sent books to Canadian troops in Germany (and several were reported as you will see if you have read the opening paragraph in "The Month - -") will be interested in this comment made at that meeting, by the president, Miss Bovey. "A letter of thanks to all who have sent Books for Canadian

Troops in Europe, comes from Isabel E. Hasluk, a British WVS worker in Germany. More and more books, and games, are needed; and French ones are in especially short supply". The address was repeated here but you have this in your branch letter, as well as February issue of the "Journal". Miss Bovey went on to say information as to size and weight of parcels may be obtained from any Post Office.

Nine prizes in all were won by Quebec in the knitting contest. One of these went to one of our good W.I. knitters in Gaspé. The two first prizes were a continent apart. The first prize for sweater went to Mrs. Hemsley, Vernon, B.C. and first for afghan square to Mrs. F. G. MacDonald, Pubnico, N.S. All entries were of a very high standard, according to the judges, Miss Alice Lighthall of the Canadian Handicraft Guild and Mrs. S. Graham Ross. W.V.S. officers were delighted to note the many offers of continued support in knitting afghan squares. The articles made for the contest will be marked, "Gift of Canadian Women", and shipped shortly (gone when you read this) to needy children Overseas.

"Institute News" — P.E.I.

From the publication of the P.E.I. Institutes (with above title) comes the following item: "Five 18 in. table looms have arrived from Quebec to the Women's Institute Office, Charlottetown. These looms have been donated by the Charlottetown Home Craft to the Prince Edward Island Women's Institutes to promote handicrafts in our province. They may be rented monthly to branch W.I. for a charge of $1.00 to cover the cost of any small repairs". The P.E.I. executive hopes this will help to stimulate interest in this fascinating craft, among its own membership.

National Salon of Agriculture

The National Salon of Agriculture was in full swing when this was written. As you know, Miss McOuat represented the Q.W.I. on the committee arranging the Women's Section. The Institute and the Canadian Association of Consumers (Quebec English Branch) were the two English organizations asked to assist. Miss McOuat was asked by Miss E. Leblanc, chairman, to work closely with her during the Salon and help her to keep the demonstrations running smoothly. Those of you who could visit the Salon can vouch for the success of this "first time" with a woman's section.

The Month With The W.I.

With the Semi-annual Board Meeting past we begin to look with interest to the spring and the June Convention. Looking over the reports I realize we have all had a busy eights months since the last one; may the coming months be as good, or even better. There are still some reports missing and often I have to condense two months into one. Why not try a little harder to get those reports to your convenors on time.

That winter board meeting is mentioned in nearly every report this month — it is gratifying to know that the county presidents are already at work publicizing the event.

How about those broadcasts? Someone, somewhere, must be carrying on this work but only one reported. And where are those pictures? We seem to be in the winter "slump". By the frequent mention that was made of books to the troops in Germany it would appear much interest has been created. See "Office Happenings" to find out what the Women's Voluntary Services has to say about this project.

Argenteuil: *Arundel* appointed two delegates, Mrs. Sasnkowski and Mrs. Morrison, to attend the Town Council Meeting to discuss Centennial plans for the community. A successful hat-making course has been completed, members and husbands enjoying a social hour at the close. *Brownsburg* has a "Variety" program of songs, readings, etc. arranged by the Social Convenors, Mrs. Wray. An auction netted $21 and books sold, $4.50. The latter amount was donated to the library and $5 each given CARE and the Grace Dart Hospital. *Jerusalem-Bethany* heard items on "Onions", "Overcoming Fatigue" and "Smile". Red Cross quilts are in the making. *Lachute* members were asked to watch for Crime Comics at book stands. A film, with commentary, was shown on the work of the ACWW. *Morin Heights* saw a film, provided by the Welfare and Health Convenor, showing treatments given patients suffering from mental illness. A shower of tea towels for the school cafeteria will be held and a picture of the Queen is to be presented to the school to be hung beside the Flag. *Upper Lachute-East End* discussed the program for the coming year. Two quilts are ready for quilting and $5 was donated to the Lampada (High School paper).

Bonaventure: *Black Cape* heard a paper on "Pasteurization of Milk", given by the Convenor of Health and Welfare. Two articles, "The Life of Hemingway" and "How to Make a Good Cup of Coffee" were read by Mrs. MacNair and Mrs. H. Dimock gave two humorous readings, "An Afternoon Tea" and "Sly Johnny". *Grand Cascapedia* held a "pot luck" concert. The branch project, a quilt was sewn together at the meeting and a valentine contest of scrambled words held, the prize won by Mrs. Willett.

Brome: *Abercorn* heard a talk on Quebec Laws as they affect women. Linen was brought in for the Cancer Society and $5 donated toward hot lunches in the school. A donation was received from friends. *Austin* had a discussion on the Tweedsmuir Competition. A wool afghan is being knitted and print was distributed to be made up into articles for sale. *South Bolton* made a contribution to the Health League and heard a talk on communicable diseases by the school nurse. A crib quilt was made and donated by two members. *South Bolton* JWI report a successful year (Let's hear more from you, Juniors). *Sutton* had a rug-making demonstration by Mrs. Vincent and a paper on Citizenship given by a member. A box of toys and games was sent to Flambeau Home.

Chat-Huntingdon: *Aubrey-Riverfield* donated $25 to the Howick School Cafeteria, a basketful of articles to the Convalescent Home in Ormstown, valentines to the Alexandria Hospital, and $5 to the Cerebral Palsy Fund. A gift was presented to the recording secretary, Mrs. C. Orr, for many years of faithful service. *Dundee* sent valentines to the Children's Memorial Hospital. Mrs. E. Gardiner gave a talk on "Why is Rural Teaching Unattractive?" and led a quiz on Mental Arithmetic, won by Mrs. Smallman. *Franklin Centre* has an English "link" Another successful card party was held. *Hemmingford* ordered seeds for the school fair and made preparations for a sewing course. A Welfare and Health film was shown. A card party here also, and a food sale. *Howick* donated $105 to Ormstown Barrie Memorial Hospital toward equipment for the Nurses' Section. Mrs. Hope demonstrated a new apron pattern and Mrs. Glasgow, Howick, told of her trip to Wyoming. *Huntingdon's* guest speaker was the Rev. E. J. Johnson, Ormstown, on the topic "St. Lawrence Seaway". A picture of Laura Rose Stephen, first president of the branch, was on display. This was taken at the 50th anniversary of the W.I. in 1947. Seeds have been ordered for the schoolfair and $25 donated as prize money for the Huntingdon Fair. Other donations were $5 to assist the school library and $5 for Save the Children Fund. *Ormstown's* guest speaker was Mr. Eric King, principal of the High School, on Education. A Dresden Plate quilt is being made by the members.

Compton: *Bury* members have made 250 cancer dressings. Several poems were read at the meeting and talks given on Care of Fur Fabrics, Lime and the Soil, Quebec's production of Maple Sugar and Syrup. *Canterbury* has had a busy month with much community welfare work reported. Donations have been received from Eaton's and Simpson's which will be made up for the Cecil Memorial Home. A faithful member was lost by death. *Cookshire* had talks on the work of the School Nurse and the Health Unit Nurse. Knitted squares and cotton for the cancer society were brought in and a demonstration held on the proper way to wash orlon. A card marathon is in progress. *East Angus* realized $25 from a paper drive, sent $5 to the Hospital fund, another $5 to the March of Dimes and $25 to the Compton Bursary Fund. *East Clifton* had a talk on Ceylon. A Chinese auction was held and $2 given to the Cemetery Fund in memory of deceased members. (This is done annually). *Sawyerville* heard an address by Dr. Lowrey on "The Heart" and another by Mrs. Robinson on the Can. Institute for the Blind, followed by a demonstration of a "talking book" by means of a record player. These records help the blind to keep in touch with new books and are sent free of charge. A donation of $5 was given to this cause.

Gaspé: *Haldimand* held a Valentine Tea, proceeds $3, and made a donation of$5 to the March of Dimes. *L'Anse-aux-Cousins* discussed ways and means of holding a branch together. A jumbled word contest was held and a contribution made to the Q.W.I. Service Fund. *Sandy Beach* also reports a $10 donation to this Fund. *Wakeham* gave $5 to the March of Dimes. The convenor of Home Economics gave a demonstration on making flowers from crepe paper.

Gatineau: *Aylmer East* brought in cotton for the Cancer Society, voted $25 to the Service Fund, $10 to the Institute for the Blind, and $10 to the March of Dimes. Mrs. Wiskham, an English W.I. member, described their meetings and told of the work done in her branch in England. *Eardley* reports a very full business meeting. *Lower Eardley* had a film on Citizenship and one on Welfare, shown by the Rev. Lorne Lemoine. A food sale and talent table brought $41.85 into the funds. *Wright* tells of its "money-raiser". A member donates a Mystery Box at each meeting, tickets are sold for five cents each and the winner brings the next box. Items discussed were Needling the Weary Inner Wardrobe, The visit of the Russian Farmers to Canada, National Health Plan, Women in Public Service, How Macaroni got its Name, and a quiz on the Handbook. This branch celebrated its 17th birthday, with six of the remaining charter members present. A decorated birthday cake was in evidence and a sing enjoyed.

Megantic: *Inverness* is planning a cookbook to be printed next summer. Money-raisers were discussed here (card parties, films). Money was voted to pay half of the express charges on the White Gifts sent to needy children in Montreal, and a contest netted $3.80.

Missisquoi: *Dunham* entertained new Canadians with colored slides followed by games. *Fordyce* members are raising Lenten money, any method can be followed. "Date Apples" to raise $1.50 each had been used other years. (What are "date apples"? Other Institutes might like to know). *Stanbridge East* had a program on Welfare and Health. Health posters used were sent later to the school for display in the class rooms. A card party netted $12, and $5 raised by travelling apron, was voted to the Verdun Protestant Hospital (recreation supplies). Cotton was brought in for the Cancer Society.

Papineau: *Lochaber* announces proudly that twins were born to their popular secretary, Mrs. L. H. Berndt, a boy and a girl. (Congratulations). The sale of cards brought in $19 and a novelty table $14. A donation of $20 was sent to Save the Children Fund.

Pontiac: *Bristol* heard the story of the Mary Stewart Collect. *Clarendon* donated $20 to the upkeep of the local cemeteries and $5 each to the two Protestant Children's Homes. *Quyon* had a debate on "Resolved that Children Reared in the Country are Healthier than Children Reared in the City", and solos by Mr. C. O'Reilley were enjoyed. *Shawville* heard a review of Pontiac County W.I. by past presidents, Mrs. R. W. Hodgins, Miss Pritchard and Mrs. Findlay. *Stark's Corners* answered the rollcall by each naming their fav-

ourite magazine. The contest here was jumbled names of nearby towns.

Richmond: *Cleveland* had several readings; Citizenship Convenor on "The Tenth Province"; Agriculture Convenor, "Weeds", and the President, "The Duties of a Member", followed by a quiz on the Handbook. *Dennison's Mills* made a donation of $20 to the Holy Trinity Church Cemetery Fund. *Gore* had a demonstration on "Cake Decorating", the cake sold later. Members were divided into two teams for attendance, losers to provide supper at next annual meeting. *Richmond Hill* sent a large box of clothing and quilts to Korea. *Shipton* had another of their "Teenage" dances. At the meeting a demonstration was given on "How to Change a Bed with the Patient in it". *Spooner Pond* had a display of 24 quilt blocks made by members. The branch catered for a Boy Scout "Father and Son" banquet. *Windsor Mills* collected $3.40 toward children's toys for local hospital and made $12.45 at a Bingo. The School Principal gave a talk on the students' trip to Montreal.

Rouville: *Abbotsford* had Mrs. R. Mitchell of Granby as guest speaker, giving four humorous readings. The travelling apron brought in $12.73.

Shefford: *Granby Hill* gave a miscellaneous shower to a neighbour who had lost her home by fire and voted $10 to the Granby High School to help in publishing their year book. The Home Economics convenor conducted a contest and a donation of material was received. *Granby West* held a card party and donated $5 to the High School and dish towels to the Lunch Room. The convenor of Agriculture conducted a contest here, the subject "Conservation". Ten members are taking the St. John's Ambulance Course. *South Roxton* heard the history of the Mary Stewart Collect and a paper on the many uses of lemons. A contribution of $6 was sent the Service Fund and a food sale realized $7.35. A turkey dinner was held for members and families. *Waterloo-Warden* is planning a St. John's Ambulance Course. Treats were sent to the Flambeau Home and bingo provided some fun.

Sherbrooke: *Ascot* has a long list of donations: Sherbrooke Hospital Campaign $10, Lennoxville High School Cafeteria (hot lunches for needy children) $10 Flambeau Home $20, Cancer Clinic $5 (where four members assist) Travelling Library $10, and Service Fund $54. Plans are being made for an entry in the Handicraft Section of the Tweedsmuir Competition. *Belvidere* heard a talk on the Retarded Children's School by Mrs. Coupland, and readings on "Family Philosophy in China", "More West Indian Immigration for Canada". Seven members work at the Cancer Dressing clinic (39 pads made). A quilt and rummage sale netted $42.59 and $5 given the Blind Campaign. This branch is also interested in the Handicraft Section of the National Competition. *Brompton Road* reported that 255 dressings and 39 packages were made at the Cancer Clinic. Quilts, clothing and toys have been sent to the Flambeau Home and money given to new people in the community. A report on the progress of the Retarted Children's School is mentioned. *Lennoxville* heard of the work of the V.O.N. in Sherbrooke and welcomed a new member. Small gifts were sent to cancer patients at their homes and a donation of $10 given toward hot lunches for needy children at school. This branch plans to take up the Exchange Programs project. *Milby* had Robert Allen as guest speaker, a local boy who was one of the Quebec team in judging beef to go to the Royal Winter fair in Toronto. Donations of remnants from various firms were sold to aid treasury and a blanket sent to Greece. A W.I. quiz was held.

Stanstead: *Ayer's Cliff* saw two films, Target TB and Drug Addiction. The Parish Hall has been secured for the Health Clinic. Plans were made for a paper drive and $25 donated towards hot lunches in the school. Tips on home-made beauty aids were given by the Home Economics convenor. *Beebe* is another branch that is interested in the Retarted Children project, Mrs. Woodard speaking on this topic at the meeting. Mention is made of the loss sustained by their president in the death of her husband. *Hatley Centre* held a spelling bee with prize for the winner. Proceeds from a card party were $25.50 and $15 was given for the hot lunch project at the school. This branch had the county broadcast over WIKE, Newport, using the subject "Pasteurization of Milk". *Minton* had Dr. Harrison as guest speaker with her topic "Retarded Children". *North Hatley* heard a talk by Mrs. LeBaron on her visit to the UN in New York, and a paper by Mrs. Montgomery, Principal of the High School, on "The Pursuit of Happiness". *Stanstead North* had Mrs. B. Turner, president Sherbrooke County W.I., to tell of the newly-organized School for Retarded Children in that county. A discussion was held on raising money and $10 was voted for hot lunches in the school. *Tomifobia* also voted $10 for the hot lunch project. A display of rugs was held and cotton brought in for the Cancer Society. *Way's Mills* displayed favorite pieces of china and told their history. An apron contest was held and plans made for the exhibit at the Fair.

Inspectors of the Plant Protection Service never miss a trick. One of the latest things they inspected was a shipment of half a ton of gravel from Pakistan, sent to Canada by air for testing by the Ontario Hydro Research Laboratory to see how good it would be for making concrete for the big dam being built there.

To be sure that no insect pests might be brought to Canada in the gravel, it was examined carefully, especially for nematodes; as it turned out, no cause for alarm or action was found.

This is just one example of how Government agencies keep alert to prevent the introduction of pests into the country.

THE COLLEGE PAGE

The Macdonald Clan

Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students

Students Stage Their Royal With Success

The third Tuesday of February always means the "Royal" at the College; the day when the students show the results of their training to the public. This year's effort was in the fine tradition that has been set year after year, and the many hours of preparation that had gone into the Royal proved fully justified by the results.

The "Royal" is an outgrowth of livestock show that used to be presented yearly by students of the Animal Husbandry option. In 1948 it was decided that this should be expanded into something that would include the rest of the College, and that year saw the first of the booth displays that have featured the show ever since. Household Science, Agriculture and Handicrafts have taken part in the Royal every year since 1948, and recently the School for Teachers have rounded out the programme by giving demonstrations of their teaching techniques, presenting a programme of films and opening their classrooms and laboratories for inspection.

The livestock show is still a big part of the Royal and it alone this year took up the whole day for some 75 students who were showing cattle, sheep and hogs. Cattle classes are shown as at any fair; each student selects by lot the animal he will show, and spends some weeks in preparation for the big day fitting and training the animal he or she has drawn. While the animals are being placed in the different classes (judges this year were S. J. Chagnon, Hermas Lajoie, J. McKellar, J. W. Graham and G. Mayrand) the students at the halters are being judged as showmen. A champion is declared for each breed, and a grand champion showman is finally chosen. This year's champion was Ellard McBane of Quyon, and for his competence he won the Montreal Farmers' Club Cup and the Clarence Goodhue Memorial Trophy which goes to the champion Holstein showman. Milton Hooker of Ormstown was Reserve Grand Champion and top beef showman. The winning Ayrshire showman was Quebec's national junior champion Ellwood Hodgins, Edward Maginnes of Rupert was champion sheep showman, and Mark Waldron of East Clifton was tops in swine.

To add variety, judging contests with grain. apples and dressed poultry were arranged which anyone could take part in; Agricultural Engineering students had arranged a display of farm machinery, the Horticulture boys had a flower show, so there was something doing all the time to suit every taste.

It was interesting to see so many High School students in attendance. These senior students are invited to come in organized groups, and this year about 600 students from 15 or more schools accepted the invitation.

The different booths are judged for their effectiveness in following the general theme of the Royal—*Progress our Purpose* this year — and how well they attract the passerby and get him to read the message presented. A booth prepared by Horticulture students, showing very simply but forcefully the advantage of packaging carrots in polythene bags to preserve their quality won the approval of the judges, Dr. Rachel Beaudoin of the University of Montreal and H. S. Tewsley of the Exhibits Branch, Ottawa. A very close runner-up was the booth of General Agriculture, which showed the organization and aims of 4-H clubs. Animal Husbandry and Agricultural Engineering tied for third place.

We have said that staff members play as small a part as possible; but to a few of them the organizers entrust the responsibility of choosing a Queen from among a group of co-eds nominated by vote of the student body. This year the choice fell upon Miss Joan Deathe of Montreal, a student of the School for Teachers, and she was crowned with due ceremony by Prof. W. A. Maw, who acted this year as staff adviser.

The Royal In Pictures

The crowd (1) had a good view from the gallery in the gym. (2) shows the information booth at a quiet moment, and in (3) the Queen is crowned. S. J. Chagnon (4, 5) judged the Ayrshires, and the booths were judged by experts from Montreal and Ottawa (8). Judging contests for the public (6, 11), demonstrations of bread making (14), cookie making (15) and textiles (10), followed the fashion show (12, 13). Winners of the booth competition were the students in Horticulture, whose entry is shown in (9). In (7) Grant Cameron accepts the Animal Husbandry Club shield on behalf of Diploma II, the class with the most points in the showmanship contest.

HORTICULTURE
HANDICRAFTS
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The Royal 1956

THE MACDONALD LASSIE